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AND

Accompanying Documents

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OF

MAR 26 1929

ILLINOIS YEARLY MEETING UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

OF THE

Society of Friends,

HELD AT

CLEAR CREEK,

PUTNAM COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

NINTH MONTH,

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Illinois Yearly Meeting of Friends.



MINUTES.

1. Illinois Yearly Meeting of Friends met in its fifteenth annual session at Clear Creek, Putnam County, Illinois, Ninth Month, 16th day, 1889.

2. By the reports from our quarterly meeting we find the following named persons were appointed representatives, who are present except one:

BLUE RIVER QUARTER:—Lowry Trueblood, Mary G. Smith, Elenora Coale, Abraham H. Brown and Nathan Brooks.

PRAIRIE GROVE QUARTER:—John Cory, Ann Eliza Mead, Laurretta H. Nichols, Hannah I. Tomlinson, Benjamin F. Nichols, Elijah Hogue and Jesse Hole.

3. Joel Birdsall, a Minister from Camden Monthly Meeting, Indiana, is acceptably with us.

4. To gather the exercises of this meeting and report to a future session, we appoint Wilmer Walton, Mary C. White and Elizabeth Vail.

5. Laurretta H. Nichols, in behalf of the committee appointed last year to assist the clerks in revising the minutes and have 1,500 copies printed and distributed, reports its duty performed at a cost of \$125.00, as shown by the treasurer's report.

6. To assist the clerk in revising the minutes of this meeting and have 1,500 copies printed and distributed, we appoint Nathan P. Wilson, Hugh L. John, Chalkley John, Katharine A. Wilson and Elmina Averill. They are authorized to draw on the treasurer for the necessary funds and report next year.

7. To prepare replies to the Epistles received, we appoint Josephine Holingsworth, Susie Brown, Laura A. Coale, Lowry Trueblood, Sidney Averill, George D. John, Elwood P. Cooper, Elwood Trueblood, Clarence Mills, Nathan Brooks, Moses Brinton and Lydia A. Wilson. They are directed to report at a future session.

8. Epistles from all the Yearly Meetings with which we correspond were received, and those from Philadelphia, Baltimore, New York and Genesee, were read at this time.

9. The representatives are directed to confer together at the rise of this meeting and present this afternoon the names of persons to serve as clerk and assistant, the ensuing year.

10. Then adjourned to meet at 2 o'clock this afternoon.

SECOND-DAY AFTERNOON.

11. The 16th of Ninth Month, at the appointed hour, the meeting convened.

12. Benjamin F. Nichols, in behalf of the representatives, reports that they have conferred together and are united in presenting the name of Oliver Wilson for clerk and Lauretta H. Nichols for assistant, who, being separately considered, are united with, and they are accordingly appointed for the ensuing year.

13. The remaining Epistles were read at this time, and the same interest, so apparent while the first were being read, was fully maintained, showing that the thoughts expressed therein were tenderly appreciated by the entire body.

14. Edith Mills, in behalf of the correspondents, reports that the Epistles were all copied, signed and forwarded to the meetings to which they were addressed.

15. To act as correspondents the ensuing year, we appoint Martha M. Wilson and Edith Mills, who are to report next year.

16. The meeting at this time entered into the consideration of society, as shown by the answers to the queries forwarded in the reports from our quarterly meetings. The following summaries were approved as representing our present condition.

SUMMARY OF ANSWERS TO QUERIES.

Ans. to 1st Query.—Most of our meetings report a general attendance on First-days. In the others, too much luke-warmness is manifest; mid-week meetings neglected by many; unbecoming behavior generally avoided. The hour of meeting mostly observed.

17. After the consideration of and adoption of the summary answer to the first query, the remaining queries are deferred until our next session.

18. The meeting then adjourned until 10 o'clock, to-morrow morning.

THIRD-DAY MORNING.

19. The 17th of Ninth month, at the time adjourned to, the meeting convened.

Ans. to 2nd Query.—Christian love and fellowship, as becomes our profession, is generally maintained. Tale-bearing and detraction discouraged. One meeting reports that greater efforts to end differences would be beneficial.

Ans. to 3d.—Our members observe simplicity and utility in apparel, and generally avoid vain fashions and advise their children to the same care. They encourage plainness of speech and kind and gentle deportment. They endeavor to discourage corrupt conversation and the reading of pernicious literature. The frequent reading of the scriptures is encouraged.

Ans. to 4th—We believe our members (with one exception in each quarterly meeting) are clear of the use, as a beverage, of intoxicants and all connection with the liquor traffic, and are watchful in

extending a temperance influence. The use of tobacco is discouraged, also the attending of places of unprofitable diversion.

Ans. to 5th.—The necessities of those needing aid are relieved when they become known. Advice and assistance in obtaining employment is extended as opportunity offers. The public schools furnish facilities for the education of their children.

Ans. to 6th.—Our members generally maintain a testimony in favor of a free gospel ministry. A more earnest advocacy of our testimony against oppression, oaths, military service, clandestine trade, prize goods and lotteries, would be beneficial.

Ans. to 7th.—Our members are careful to live within the bounds of their circumstances and to avoid involving themselves in business beyond their ability to manage. They endeavor to be just in their dealings and punctual in complying with their engagements.

Ans. to 8th.—When members violate any of our vital testimonies, care is extended for their restoration to correct living and unity of fellowship in the society.

20. Then adjourned until 2 o'clock this afternoon.

THIRD-DAY AFTERNOON.

21. The 17th of Ninth month, at the appointed hour, the meeting convened.

Ans. to 9th Query.—Our members endeavor to give their children and those under their care a useful and sufficient education under surroundings that will aid their growth in pure morality. We have no schools under our care.

Ans. to 10th.—The queries were read and answered as directed.

Ans. to 11th.—Lincoln Executive Meeting was established in 10th month, 1888. No meetings have been discontinued.

22. Statistical reports have been received from all the monthly and executive meetings except Lincoln executive meeting. The clerk is directed to procure this report and place in the hands of the publishing committee in time for printing with our minutes.

23. Messages of love were received from our esteemed friends,

Samuel S. Tomlinson, of Ohio, and Darlington Hoopes, of Maryland. The clerk is directed to prepare a letter and sign in behalf of the meeting, conveying to them our appreciation of their love and remembrance.

24. Blue River Quarterly meeting directs its treasurer to pay its quota of yearly meeting fund, \$192.50, to our treasurer.

25. Prairie Grove reports it has forwarded, by John Cory, its quota of yearly meeting fund, \$171.00, and directs him to pay it to our treasurer.

26. The following communications were received asking that a half year's Meeting of Friends be established in Nebraska to be held alternately at Lincoln and Genoa, in Second and Eighth months, and after a free interchange of sentiment the meeting is fully united in granting their request, and the following committee was appointed: Edward Coale, Benjamin F. Nichols, Thomas E. Hogue, Laretta H. Nichols, Elizabeth Vail, Elizabeth Mills, Abel Mills, Jonathan W. Plummer and Elwood Trueblood. They are directed to attend the opening at the time specified, or at any other time that may be united upon by the meetings interested, and report next year.

27. The following named persons are appointed to prepare letters of greeting, encouragement, fellowship and sympathy to our isolated members and others, who are not with us at this time, and report to a future session: Nathan P. Wilson, Edward Coale, Wilmer Walton, Elwood Trueblood, Isaih Lightner, Mary G. Smith and Margaret Brinton.

28. The librarian made the following report, which is satisfactory, and he is continued and directed to report next year.

29. The clerk is directed to issue an order on our treasurer in favor of Abel Mills for the sum of \$5.24, amount due him as librarian.

30. The dining hall committee made the following satisfactory report. It is continued and directed to report next year.

31 To settle with the treasurer and ascertain the amount of funds necessary to be raised, also present the name of a suitable person to act as treasurer, we appoint Harley Cooper, Joshua L. Mills, Margaret

Merritt, Arthur Coale, Mary L. Walton and Morris A. Wilson. They are directed to report to a future meeting.

32. Then adjourned until 2 o'clock to-morrow afternoon.

FOURTH-DAY AFTERNOON.

33. The 18th of Ninth month, at the hour adjourned to, the meeting convened.

34. The general committee on Philanthropic Labor presented the following reports: Its recommendations are approved, and it is authorized to draw on the treasurer, if needed, for \$250.00 in addition to the unexpended balance of last year. It is continued with the additions to the committee as named in its recommendations. It is directed to report next year.

35. The meeting directs the clerk to forward to each meeting not now having a committee on arbitration, its request that such a committee be appointed to act alone or in co-operation with neighbors.

36. The visiting committee presented the following report, which was united with. It is continued and directed to report next year.

37. To constitute a committee to consider the propriety of appointing a nominating committee to present names of persons to act on all committees of this body, we appoint Sidney Averill, Benjamin F. Nichols, Elizabeth Mills, Lydia K. Penrose, Elizabeth Coale, Mary C. White, Elwood P. Cooper, Henry K. Smith, Melissa Cory, Clarence Mills, Lydia E. Wilson, Nathan P. Wilson, Abraham H. Brown, Elwood Trueblood, Jesse Hole and Moses Brinton.

38. Then adjourned until 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

FIFTH-DAY MORNING.

39. The 19th of Ninth month, at the appointed hour, the meeting convened.

40. The minutes of the representative committee were read and action taken thereon, so far as they concern this body.

41. The recommendation of the representative committee that an order be drawn in favor of Mary G. Smith for \$6.40, money expended for the printing of leaflets. The clerk is hereby directed to issue the above mentioned order.

42. To fill the vacancy in the representative committee, caused by the decease of Thomas D. Tomlinson, John Cory is appointed.

43. A memorial from Marietta Monthly Meeting, concerning our deceased friend, Thomas D. Tomlinson, an approved minister of the Society of Friends, endorsed by Prairie Grove Quarterly Meeting, and approved by the representative committee was read. Its reading brought a feeling of deep solemnity over the meeting, and testimonies were tenderly offered in reference to the loss felt by the meeting in his decease and that of other friends during the past year.

44. The committee to settle with the treasurer and present the name of a suitable person to serve as treasurer, submit the following report and recommend the appointment of Amos B. Wilson for treasurer which is satisfactory to this meeting, and he is appointed to that station the ensuing year.

45. The clerk is directed to inform the Quarterly meetings of their quotas of yearly meeting fund and request them to pay the same to our treasurer prior to our meeting next year.

46. The committee appointed under minute 27 to prepare a letter of greeting to absent friends, produced the following which is satisfactory, and directed to be published with the minutes. Also to have 500 copies printed in leaflet form. The publishing committee is directed to distribute with the minutes.

47. The committee appointed under minute 56 last year to consider the subject entitled birthright membership, made the following satisfactory report.

48. The meeting then adjourned until 2 o'clock this afternoon.

FIFTH-DAY AFTERNOON

49. The 19th of Ninth month at the time adjourned to the meeting convened.

50. The committee in the interest of isolated members and literature made the following report. Much unity was expressed with the recommendation, but it was the sentiment of the meeting that we defer action and refer the subject to the Com. for its further consideration; it continued and directed to report next year. The following named persons were added to the Com: Isaih Lightner, Jonathan W. Plummer, Moses Brinton, Elwood Trueblood and Nathan P. Wilson.

51. The committee in the Interest of F. D. S. made the following satisfactory report. It is continued and directed to report next year.

52. A communication from Blue River Quarterly meeting in regard to making some changes in the acoustic properties of the yearly meeting house was received. The subject is referred to the trustees with authority to act as their judgment may direct.

53. The clerk informs this meeting that all the business intrusted to his care was attended to except the signing of the memorial from Blue River monthly meeting, which by an oversight was neglected.

54. The following request was received from the meeting of Ministers and Elders which was united with.

55. The committee appointed to prepare epistles in response to those received from other yearly meetings produced seven, which were read, and after slight corrections, were directed to the care of the revising and publishing committee to make the necessary additions in regard to the subjects of temperance in epistle to Genesse and F. D. school association; also mention the establishment of Lincoln executive meeting and the action of the meeting in regard to the establishment of Nebraska half-year's meeting, the meeting of the Illinois Peace Union, and have copied in type-writing.

56. The Clerk is directed to sign the epistles in behalf of the meeting and forward to the meetings addressed.

57. The committee appointed to gather the exercise of the meeting presented the following which is directed to be published with our proceedings.

58. With our hearts filled with gratitude that we have transacted the business coming before us in entire harmony and true fellowship, we now conclude to meet at the usual time and place next year.

OLIVER WILSON, Clerk.

REPORTS.

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The committee on Finance have examined the Treasurer's accounts for the past year and find them correct as per accompanying statement. It recommends \$350 to be raised for next year, and proposes Amos B. Wilson for treasurer.

Signed for the committee.

HARLEY COOPER.

TREASURER'S ANNUAL STATEMENT.

9th-mo., 18, 1888.	Balance at last report.....	493.05
" 11, 1889.	Received of Treas. Blue River Quarterly meeting..	192.50
" 14, " "	" " " Prairie Grove " "	171.00
" 18, " "	" " " from a friend (donation).....	3.00
	Total received.....	\$859.55
9th-mo., 19, 1888.	B. F. Nicholas Phil. Labor Com.....	\$13 50
9th-mo., 19, " "	Paid Librarian.....	3.97
12th-mo., 8, " "	" Printing Committee.....	125 00
1st-mo., 19, 1889.	" F. D School Committee.....	40.00
9th-mo., 18, " "	" Philanthropic Labor Committee	56 06
9th-mo., 18, " "	" Library for blanks and postage.....	8.74
9th-mo., 18, " "	" Trustees for repairs etc.....	21.54
9th-mo., 19, " "	" Drafts and Money orders.....	.50
	Total.....	\$269.25
9th-mo., 19, " "	" Balance in Treasury.....	\$590.30

AMOS B. WILSON, Treasurer.

REPORT OF DINING HALL COMMITTEE.

The committee in charge of the Dining Hall, reports its usual care. No expenses to the meeting have been incurred during the year.

Signed for the committee.

MARY W. SMITH.

*REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PHILANTHROPIC
LABOR.*

To Illinois Yearly Meeting of Friends :

DEAR FRIENDS:—The committee on Philanthropic Labor reports: That soon after the distribution of the printed copies of our last Yearly Meeting proceedings, notices were sent to the members of this committee in each Monthly and Executive Meeting (except Lincoln Executive, which had not, at that time, any members on our committee) giving the names of its members on the committee and requesting a conference between these in each locality with reference to the work within their neighborhoods, together with suggestions as to lines and methods of work. Following this, some correspondence was had with the chairman of the sub-committees in response to their enquiries. We now present the reports of these committees, so far as received, and while regretting the difficulties that seem insurmountable in the eyes of the local committees, wish to express our conviction that prompt and frequent meetings of those interested in each meeting, to consider the ways and means for advancing the interest of one or more of the lines of work represented by sub-committees, followed by correspondence with the chairman of the general and appropriate sub-committees, as soon as the methods of work are decided upon, would have produced, and may yet produce results worthy of our best efforts.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CORRUPT LITERATURE AND SOCIAL PURITY.

In looking over the last year, we are forced to acknowledge but little if any apparent result from our work, and under such circumstances many are discouraged, and a feeling of indifference is manifest as regards this line of duty, and thus 'tis only the few that labor and keep the subject before us. In some localities there is an earnest thought maintained, and we believe that as we move by the clear impressions of right more will be required, and a steady work by faith will produce a marked effect.

The Master's, "Go ye into all nations," carries with it a force that we must follow if we perform any good. There have been those, who, under unfavorable conditions, have kept an eye to the work by both publicly and privately pressing the thought that impure language is beneath the dignity of professing christians, and much of the local literature is a detriment to society. We would earnestly advise a more general watch in these points, feeling that out of these grow so many moral and spiritual blights, that endanger the standard of true christian excellence.

Two members of this committee are connected with the Industrial Home

at Bloomington, McLean County, Illinois, which was chartered 6th mo., 12, 1889, and opened some five weeks ago.

There are now in the care of the Home, as inmates:

Erring Women,.....	2
Defenceless Women,.....	2
Defenceless Girls,.....	1
Children,.....	3
Infants,.....	2

and under the care of the Home, but not in the Home:

Erring Girls,.....	3
Defenceless Girls,.....	1
Children,.....	1

Total,.....15

28 cases, in all, have passed through the institution.

Signed, MARY G. SMITH, *Chairman of Committee.*

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS.

MT. PALATINE, Illinois, 8th, 26, 1889.

J. W. Plummer, Chairman:

DEAR FRIEND:—The Committee on Indian Affairs have but little to report. In our last we had reason to hope that ere this we should have had a Matron employed among the Indians, but owing to the fact that some of the Yearly Meetings did not see clearly the way for them to move in the matter, it was, for the time being, abandoned. We are not, however, unmindful of its importance.

Our member of the Ex. Committee in the East, (Edward Stabler, Jr.) in company with other members of the committee, visited Washington and had a very satisfactory interview with the Executive Department, including the Indian Commissioner, who seemed to realize the great need there was of this important branch of our Indian work, and signified a willingness to aid us in bringing the matter before the approaching session of Congress. We also find that other religious organizations have full unity and sympathy in the work.

In conclusion, we would advise Friends not to lose sight of this much persecuted people.

JOSHUA L. MILLS, *on behalf of Committee.*

GOSHEN, LANCASTER Co., PA., Ninth Month, 5th. 1889.

Jonathan W. Plummer:

* * * * *

When some members of the Executive Committee of the Seven Yearly Meetings on Indian affairs visited Washington, soon after the Inauguration of President Harrison; we found the President, the Secretary of Interior, and Indian Commissioner, Oberly, all friendly to our project of having Matrons to instruct the Indian women in the more advanced tribes, and as we

had had interviews previously with the former Secretary and Indian Commissioner as well as with the committees on Indian affairs of both Houses of Congress, all seemed very favorable. The committee of the House especially promised us they would report a bill, or rather a clause in the annual appropriation bill, providing for the appointment of as many matrons as the Secretary of the Interior might see proper to appoint in those tribes to whom land in severalty had been allotted. Near the time of adjournment however, in answer to my query, "If such an appropriation had been made," I was not a little disappointed to be told that they had decided to take no action on the subject, preferring to leave it for the incoming administration to inaugurate, etc , etc.

So, with all our efforts to procure this much needed want for the encouragement of the Indian women, we are again left, and our only hope is in the action of the new Congress, which will meet 12th month, next.

Our Indian Committee of Baltimore Yearly Meeting has been in correspondence with our friend, Charles Hill, agent at Santee, and have, from time to time, sent books, periodicals and such little matters as would interest the children, to both the Santee and Ponca schools, which have been duly appreciated, and by recent letters received, Charles informs us that the crops the present year have been good, and the Indians have done remarkably well and are much encouraged. He also states, the Indians have a very good idea of the manner our government is conducted and vote as intelligently as their white neighbors.

I fully believe that if we had succeeded two years ago in sending the Friend we had selected as Matron to the Santee women, and she had succeeded, as we had faith to believe she would, that by this time most of that tribe would not only be self-sustaining, but able to stand alone; take care of themselves without an agent, and prove themselves to be competent citizens of the state.

I believe this, as I have hastily stated, is about all that our Executive Committee has accomplished in Indian work the past year, which I thought right to forward thee, presuming your Philanthropic or Indian Committee will meet at, or before the assembly of your Yearly Meeting, the 16th inst.

Hoping you may enjoy a feast of good things at your annual gathering, I conclude.

Thy sincere friend, L. K. BROWN.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PRISON REFORM.

Personal inspection not being possible, to any considerable extent at least, we have had to depend upon correspondence, reports, etc., for whatever we have to offer at this time.

As to the situation in the State of Iowa, letters have been received from the Wardens of the state prisons at Anamosa and Ft. Madison, the Superintendent of the Industrial School at Eldora, and S. S. Hunting, president of the Prisoner's Aid Association, which we will briefly review.

Inmates at Anamosa, 213. 20 being for life; all confined at hard labor except the sick, old and insane. No corporal punishment allowed. Punish-

ment for violation of prison discipline. Solitary confinement on bread and water. Warden Barr says: "Prison treatment should be such as to foster as much as possible the self respect of inmates; that either very severe or very loose discipline will have a bad effect, and that it is desirable that all should be taught to work and to learn trades if possible."

At Ft. Madison, which is the larger and older prison, inmates, 368. For life 22; all at hard labor except sick, old and infirm. Punishment about the same as at Anamosa. Warden Crossly says: "We have excellent facilities for teaching those without the rudiments of an education, and we find them generally willing and anxious to learn. This with good moral instruction, plenty of work, good wholesome food, perfectly regular habits no opportunity for conversation except with the officers, guards, instructors and visiting friends, an ample supply of good healthful reading matter and careful attention to cleanliness," have enabled them to turn out a high percentage of reformed men.

S. S. Hunting reports the prisons of Iowa under good discipline, and states the object of the Prisoners' Aid Association to be, to aid the prison chaplains in their work; to assist reformed and discharged prisoners to reach their homes. or to find places for honest labor, or extend other necessary help. He suggests that the Anamosa prison should be made a reformatory for prisoners of the first conviction and under 26 years of age; that we need a Board of Public Charities with the power of Prison Commissioners, and that while we should strongly resist all attempts to take labor out of the prisons, the labor system needs reforming.

The Industrial school at Eldora, contains 366 boys. Various methods of discipline are resorted to, the principal punishment being a system of demerit marks, which if made, protracts the stay of the boy in the school. The State allows \$8 per month, per capita, for the support of the school.

We desire to add what we feel to be valuable testimony regarding the effect of the State's policy of prohibition, in the prevention of crime.

Warden Barr at Anamosa states that the inmates of that prison have decreased from 326 three years ago to 213 now; a result largely due, in his opinion, to the enforcement of Prohibition.

Warden Crossly, at Ft. Madison, says that four years ago he had 431 inmates from 39 counties, now 368 from 76 counties, and pertinently adds: "Something has caused this decrease in crime. If not Prohibition of intoxicating drinks, what is it?"

As to work in Illinois we desire to call attention to that of the "Industrial Training School" for boys at Norwood Park, Ills., under the charge of Ursula L. Harrison. Since its organization, January 29, 1887, 288 boys have been received, of whom 174 have been placed in homes. The number now in the school is 114. It is intended, by its charter, for a home and school to which boys having no proper parental or other control, may be committed; there to be instructed so far as they are capable, in the branches taught in common schools. They are also to be trained in Agricultural and Mechanical pursuits, and such other manual training as is practicable. It is non-sectarian; its Board of Directors consisting of members of

various religious societies. Our society being, until recently, represented by our friend, Jonathan W. Plummer. Boys, as soon as they are found worthy, are provided with suitable homes, if they can be obtained. One desire of the institution is to obtain a farm near Chicago together with the necessary school buildings, shops, cottages, etc.

The Home of Industry for discharged prisoners at Chicago, also shows very satisfactory progress, there having been received during the year ending Aug. 1, 1889, 116 men from prisons all over the country. Prior to Jan. 1, 1889, all applicants were received. Since that time however, a new policy has been tried, intended to shut out tramps and vagabonds of all kinds, and with much more satisfactory results. Under this policy out of 64 men admitted, 25 are now living on the fruits of honest labor.

The Orphan's Home at Onarga, Ills., conducted by W. D. A. Matthews, also reports a very profitable and satisfactory year.

Through the kindness of Thos. W. Woodnutt, we have before us the Journal of Prison Discipline and Philanthropy, published at Philadelphia under direction of the "Pennsylvania Prison Society," to which we refer all interested. In brief it is inclined to condemn the Congregate System; believes the Lease System to be entirely wrong; advocates the abolition of Time Sentences and the substitution of the Intermediate plan, and declares that we should "Treat prisoners with so much of friendliness as to beget friendship; so much of gentleness as to beget gentility: so much of confidence as to inspire a confiding spirit; so much of fairness as to command respect for justice and humanity; in a word, with so much of Christianity as to beget a reverence of and dependence upon the Author thereof."

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the committee.

T. P. MARSH, Chairman.

TEMPERANCE REPORT 1889.

To the Philanthropic Committee of Illinois Yearly Meeting.

DEAR FRIENDS:—The temperance part of your committee as a body has done but little, as no united work could be accomplished on account of the wide separation of its members. We are satisfied that each individual member has done what he or she could see to do in the limited way and means at hand. During the past year the proposition to suppress the evil of intemperance by statutory prohibition has been voted upon by several states but was defeated in every case, showing conclusively the fact that the liquor element is most thoroughly organized and equipped, while our forces were not working in harmony, owing no doubt to their difference of opinion as to the best course to pursue to reach the desired end.

The defeat, we believe, will not be lasting, but proves to us the necessity for united work. This subject will never be settled until it is settled right. How far in the future, depends upon the amount and quality of work done by its friends, and how much charity they have for others who are looking in the same direction, but with other eyes.

In Kansas and Iowa where the question was decided before this division

of sentiment, the law continues to grow in favor until now it can be said, that this law is as well enforced as other criminal laws.

We believe all now admit the evil effects of intemperance, (even the liquor element), the only difference is as to the best method of controlling or suppressing the acknowledged evil, which we believe to be by legal prohibition, if supported by a strong public opinion.

We believe the best work for the committee at present, to be the collecting and distributing of facts as to the successful workings of the Kansas and Iowa laws, as compared with license law, (either high or low) and a large majority will be convinced that legal prohibition is the only way to control the evil.

I would therefore recommend the appointment of a small special committee for this purpose, with means at their command for publishing the facts as collected, for distribution.

HORACE G. WELCH, Chairman Tem. Com.

In referring to the reports of our Sub-Committees showing such slight work accomplished, and giving voice to the consequent discouragement felt, we wish to say that we believe they do not fairly represent the interest taken and work done by members on and off our committees—but rather, the facts pertaining to committee action only. We find a very encouraging general interest and much efficient work done by individual members alone, or in connection with other organizations, especially in securing arbitration between neighbors, and in temperance work.

With our quiet habits we seem to crave too much a leadership in these committees, that no one feels able to furnish. Meeting together with the earnest desire to find some right channel for work, freely speaking of the evils recognized that need removing, and doing the little that at first seems possible, will not only open wider ways, but develop workers, who each falling into his or her right place, will separately and jointly secure results at first thought impossible. Do not try to do too large things, with the alternative of doing nothing, but do the little first, and follow as the way opens into the larger work. For the coming year we have no better methods to suggest than those presented last year, but we wish to urge that the six or more members of this committee in each local meeting, meet as soon as practicable after receiving the printed proceedings of this yearly meeting, read carefully the suggestions contained therein, consider the condition of their separate communities with reference to Local Arbitration, Corrupt Literature and Social Purity, Intemperance,

Gambling etc., and Prison interests, including children in alms houses, or needing from any cause the aid of society at large; as the need for work appears, the way to work will likely present also. After one or two such conferences, if literature for any of these lines of work is wanted, or counsel is desired, write to the chairmen of the special and general committees for such assistance as they may be able to furnish. This work in local meeting neighborhoods should not be confined to the six members of this committee in that meeting, but draw the interest and aid of as nearly the entire membership as possible, and where more efficient results will follow, those outside our membership might be interested and become very helpful. Where there are already working bodies outside our membership doing good work, and it seems wiser to supplement their efforts with our little strength, there should be liberty to do whatever will give increased efficiency in the needed reforms without compromising our principles.

As to the work of this committee during the past year outside the sub-committee work, we have to report no opening for petitions or work with legislative bodies, and no action involving expense with regard to Indian affairs or educational work among Colored or Indian children.

In the 11th mo. of last year we drew on the Treasurer for our quota of the business expenses, amounting to \$36; and during the present week, for amount expended by the Temperance committee, amounting to \$20 as per minutes in this report.

PEACE AND ARBITRATION.

In behalf of our Peace and Arbitration work, a copy of our disciplinary advices regarding the settlement of difficulties by arbitration, and of the rules for arbitration of the Chicago Board of Trade, were translated into the French language, neatly engrossed, and sent to Alfred H. Love, the president of the Universal Peace Union, for framing and forwarding to the Peace and Arbitration department of the French International Exposition held during this year in Paris. President Love reports the appearance of the framed rules, as being quite attractive, and esteemed by him as valuable in their influence.

The expense was borne by members of the Chicago meeting, and their and our thanks are due to President Love for his suggestions and kindly supervision in framing and forwarding the evidence of our testimony in the direction of peaceable settlement of all differences.

It is with pleasure that we note a steady and even rapid growth of gen-

eral sentiment favoring arbitration instead of war as a method of settling international differences when the usual diplomatic agencies fail. The appointment of delegates to a convention of the various governments on the American Continent, for the purpose of increasing friendship and harmony between themselves in civil and commercial affairs, and to provide for a standing court or board of arbitration to consider and settle all differences that may hereafter arise to disturb this peace and harmony, is one of the cheering evidences of progress. The sentiments advanced and interest manifested in the International Peace Congress recently held in Paris, France, show a decided advance in this sentiment among our trans-Atlantic friends. The full and serious responses to the toast of "An International Court of Justice" by the members of the American Bar Association in its recent meeting in Chicago, supplemented by letters from distinguished jurists of other countries who wrote in response to invitations to attend the association, is a still more significant evidence of the growth of the principles of justice and peace among the best thinkers and ablest people of our day, and an encouraging sign that the day of wars between civilized nations is drawing to a close. The effort, finally successful, to settle the differences as to wages between the owners of coal mines in Illinois and their employees is but one of many efforts to establish this method for ending disturbances between employers and employees. It is to be hoped that we may ere long, find a spirit of justice so generally prevailing, as to prevent much of the cause for these differences, and no more efficient help could be given the cause of peace by our committees and members, than to aid to the limit of their power, the growth of a sentiment that would recognize justice and regard for another's interest, as the basis of all transactions between men.

In local arbitration, Wapsinoc and Genoa Monthly Meetings have standing committees for arbitration of neighborhood differences, and in at least two other meetings our members are alive to this interest, and efficient in preventing legal suits and standing quarrels in their neighborhoods. One case of much interest has been unofficially reported in which a bitter quarrel was ended and the case taken out of court after heavy expenses had been incurred and lasting enmity seemed imminent.

In another neighborhood in Kansas where some of our members reside six neighborhood difficulties have been settled through their effort, which threatened to end in law-suits. This little band is known among their neighbors as "The Peacemakers."

CORRUPT LITERATURE AND SOCIAL PURITY.

Our committee on corrupt literature and social purity has, as its report shows, found but little that it could do during the past year. We have to suggest for the coming year in addition to the recommendations of last year, which we herewith renew, that each local committee give careful thought to the subject, as one of serious import to the morals of its neighborhood, and happiness of its homes. While one member of each of these

committees is specifically called to care for this work, the entire committee should take it in charge, and by correspondence with the chairman of this sub-committee, secure literature and counsel for the work.

As showing the possibilities for valuable work where a year since there seemed no opening, we are glad to report the establishment of the "Women's Industrial Home" of McLean county, Ill. at Bloomington.

Chartered in 3rd mo. last it was opened about the first of 8th mo., with two members of our committee on its board of managers and one as its treasurer. The Home is intended as a reformatory for erring women, a shelter for defenceless women and girls and dependent children. During its short existence it has extended care to twenty-eight persons and has fifteen now in charge. Several children have been placed in families through the co-operation of the American Educational Aid Association.

The work of this Home enters the field of two of our committees, that of Social Purity and of Prison Reform, in the preventive department.

In the same and an adjacent neighborhood we have members acting in behalf of these lines of work and in Temperance interests, as presidents of W. C. T. U. organizations and superintendents of the departments of Social Purity and Mother's Meetings.

During the reading of our 3rd query and its answer, a strong interest was awakened in regard to the large amount of corrupting literature contained in the newspapers of our neighborhoods, that come into our family circles and influence dangerously the literary tastes, and morals of both young and old. This committee was requested to give expression to this concern and present its appeal to editors and publishers for the suppression of reports of pugilistic contests, current crimes of a sensational nature, and all that tends to vitiate the morals and pervert the literary appetite of the readers.

GAMBLING AND KINDRED VICES.

The committee on gambling and kindred vices we believe has circulated the minutes and leaflets as directed by the meeting last year, but has accomplished but little additional work.

We would recommend the preparation of several brief leaflets, giving the needed information and stimulus for effort against the wide-spread invitation and temptation to take part in lotteries, raffles and other forms of gambling. These should be judiciously circulated as recommended elsewhere in this report.

TEMPERANCE INTERESTS.

If our nation or communities were dependent upon our committees for the suppression of intemperance and its attendant evils, we might well feel discouraged and despondent, but with gratitude we recognize that the truths involved in the testimony against intemperance have found safe lodgment in the hearts of many thousands of our fellow citizens, and that through far stronger organizations than ours, the work is going on; marred often by antagonisms between those having a common purpose, weakened

always by every feeling of ill will, of personal ambition or selfish purpose, yet moving on steadily toward its completion; deepening conviction in the minds of the people, opening the eyes of the yet blind, stirring the consciences of the luke-warm, and touching the hearts of the victims of intemperance; very many of our members are active, efficient workers among these thousands. Scattered as are our forces, possibly weakened in places by differing judgments as to methods, we believe there is yet much that we can do to aid this cause, both individually, by committee and in association with others. As a denomination our work has always been a quiet, unobtrusive work, consistent with our faith, which requires love and good will to all men. Let us not lose sight of this principle, nor undervalue the fruitage of this steady, untiring, kindly presentation of what we believe to be right, to all who have not yet received it. Coming in such gentle guise, with such winning spirit, in the moments when the heart of the misguided is free from active prejudice or the spirit of antagonism, the seed of truth will often find lodgment and better soil than we thought.

In this work, as in other lines, the committee of each meeting should carefully look for all right avenues for work, either little or more and keep in frequent correspondence with the chairman of the committee on temperance interests and of the general committee.

We would recommend the preparation of a leaflet of statistics based on the experiences of Iowa and Kansas under prohibitory law, and Nebraska under high license, for use in the latter state during the approaching canvass for prohibitory legislation and constitutional amendment. With all the evasions and open violations of the law in the two former states, we believe the decrease in crime and destitution, and in the cost of prosecuting and punishing criminals in these states as compared with the experience of Nebraska under high license, will furnish strong arguments in favor of the proposed change.

PRISON REFORM.

While we may not have done much in prison reform, nor even all that we might, yet the interest of several members has been strong and much good has been done. The thought regarding preventive work has deepened, and the need for care of dependent children becomes more apparent. As noted under the report of the committee on social purity and corrupting literature, a Home has been opened in Bloomington, Ill., in which a department has been given to dependent children. In this work members of our committee have been active promoters and supporters of the Home and its several branches of reformatory work.

We have to suggest in this field, that the attention of our committee in each meeting be turned toward the children that may be in their county alms houses, or that are dependent upon public care, with a view to transferring them to good homes in the neighborhood, or to the care of the Illinois Industrial Training School for boys, the American Educational Aid Society or other suitable organizations for transfer to good homes among those who will give them school and moral training.

INDIAN AFFAIRS.

In Indian affairs we can add nothing to the report of our committee, and the letter from Levi K. Brown, except to counsel a prompt response upon the part of our committee to any movement in behalf of appointing matrons to educate the Indian women of each Agency, in the art of home making and home industries, whether through subscription for the salary of a matron at the Agency under the care of our denomination, or in appeal to the government for the appointment of matrons at each agency. We believe one or two years experience of the benefits of such service by a judicious matron at the Santee agency would go far to remove all hesitancy upon the part of Congress to vote the needed appropriations for each agency.

We recommend the distribution of carefully prepared or selected literature upon the subjects of Arbitration, Corrupt Literature and Social Purity, Gambling and kindred vices, Temperance, and crime prevention or cure, through the post offices near the residences of our members, due care being taken to mail them judiciously; not all at once, but one or more at a time and so that each person getting mail at these offices shall get one or two copies of each during the year, with at least four or perhaps six distributions during the year. The postage and other cost at from 2 to 3 cents each, including printing, will not be wasted money, but as valuable seed springing up in hundreds of minds to bear the fruit of improved thought and increased action for the right, in these several lines of need.

As opportunity offers we should aid in securing in each state where we have meetings, needed changes in the laws regarding the "age of consent" for girls, and to secure adequate penalties for the crimes involved in the enticement by deceit, force or otherwise, of girls into lives of ill-fame.

We present the following account of expenses from the committee on temperance interests, for which we have drawn on the treasurer.

Allowed last year but not drawn for.....	\$ 5.40
Leaflets (3,500) sent to Mary G. Smith.....	2.60
Copies of the Iowa State Temperance Alliance reports.....	12.00
Total.....	<u>\$20.00</u>

We recommend that the yearly meeting appropriate for the use of this committee in its several branches for the ensuing year \$250, and allow it to draw for the unexpended balance of last year's appropriation.

In conclusion we present the following communication received from the Executive committee of Friends Union for Philanthropic Labor, and recommend that it be published with the proceedings of this committee.

As a part of the Union, we feel willing to present to its Executive committee our conviction, that in the absence of sufficient funds for any extended work outside our several Yearly Meeting limits, which would require large money expenditure, that it would be wise to organize the Union's committees with a view to careful study of the subjects confided to their care, and the annual presentation of well prepared reports, giving the condition of our country with reference to the evils under consideration, and

the progress made in reformatory work during the year. These reports should be accompanied by condensed accounts of the work within the limits of each Yearly Meeting during the same time, and a summary of the best thoughts and methods for work in these fields, as shown by the writings and reports of work in this and other countries by other organizations or individuals. Attention to this work need not preclude any effort that may be possible for the Union to make, or change its organization or relationship to the Philanthropic committees of our several Yearly meetings.

Such papers properly prepared, we believe would aid the work within our Yearly Meeting limits, and command the attention of all in or out of our denomination, who are desiring the removal of evils that hinder the progress of the human race and the elevation of mankind to a higher moral standard. We will be taking our light from under the bushel and setting it on a candle-stick, and small as it may be compared to the full light that is shining upon these subjects, we believe it will contain qualities that will make it valuable at once and with experience will give it increasing power for good.

If this committee is released from further service and a new one appointed, we recommend that six members or more be chosen from each Monthly or Executive Meeting, so that while acting as one committee in each neighborhood, each sub-committee of this body may have its special representative on the local committee. Should it be thought best to continue this committee another year, we recommend the appointment of Benj. F. Nichols, and Howard H. Shumway, of Marietta Monthly Meeting.

Recommended by Genoa Monthly Meeting, Geo. S. Truman, Jacob Z. Shotwell, Isaiah Lightner, Stephen W. Lightner.

Anna Pilkington, of Wapsinoc Monthly Meeting.

David Wilson, of Clear Creek Monthly Meeting.

James S. Brooks and E. Hicks Trueblood, of Blue River Monthly Meeting.

Miriam N. Overman, Mary B. White and Sarah Heacock, of Blue River Executive Meeting.

Moses Brinton, Margaret A. Brinton, J. Russell Lownes, Charles Walter, Mary Ann Swaney, Lincoln, Neb.; Catherine De Peel, Bennett, Neb.; Chas. Cook, Raymond, Neb.; and Joseph H. Painter, for Lincoln Executive Meeting.

Signed on behalf of the Committee,

JONATHAN W. PLUMMER.

FROM FRIENDS UNION FOR PHILANTHROPIC LABOR.

To the Committee on Philanthropic Labor of Illinois Yearly Meeting.

DEAR FRIENDS: At a meeting of the Executive Committee of Friends Union for Philanthropic Labor, held by adjournments, at Waynesville, Ohio from the second day of the 10th month to the 4th of the same inclusive, 1888. In the absence of the chairman and secretary, Clarkson Butterworth was chosen chairman, and Martha Morris secretary; both pro. tem.

Suggestions as to work were received and read, and it was ordered that

substantial copies of them be furnished to the committees on these concerns in the various Yearly Meetings joined in this work. The following are furnished you accordingly.

Hannah A. Plummer:—I wish the Arbitration committee might do some work in the way of opening the eyes of Friends and others, to the wrongfulness of taking sides, and creating a partisan spirit. We should attempt to get at the truth and right of a matter in a right spirit, and endeavor to so combine our thoughts and counsel as to discover the right way of securing a right thing; keeping out all party spirit, or disposition to exult over one another when proven in the wrong. This we must do—govern our own spirit and temper before we can rightly judge, or arbitrate, or advance the work of peace.

To the committee on Social Purity, I would suggest the publication, in leaflet form, of Anna Rice Powell's paper read before the Philanthropic Union in New York, in 6th month 1888.

Aaron M. Powell:—It has not been practicable (since the meeting of the Union in N. Y.) for the committee on Social Purity, of which I am chairman, to do more than to work individually, as opportunity has offered.

On the occasion of a recent visit in Virginia and Maryland, accompanied by my wife, we addressed meetings by invitation of interested Friends, of colored people, some of whom were formerly slaves, on the subject of Social Purity. We were much impressed by the statements made to us by these Friends concerning the urgent need of social purity work among the colored people. Slavery has left to them a special legacy of degradation in the direction of unchastity. If it were possible, it would be most timely and valuable service, could our Philanthropic Union assist in this most important mission field, in behalf of a still unfortunate and much neglected race of people.

Our bill in Congress, for the better protection of young girls, and to raise the "legal age of consent," which passed the House at 14 years, has been amended in the Senate, fixing the age at 16, has passed the Senate and is, I believe, still pending in the care of committees of conference of the two bodies.

I think it very desirable that during the coming legislative season in the several states represented by our Yearly Meetings, some concerted action may be taken, in which our committee on Social Purity may bear a part looking to the amendment of the statutes concerning seduction, for which except for breach of promise of marriage, there is generally no penalty at all.

Jonathan W. Plummer,
Committee on Arbitration:

To keep watchful for proper openings for petitions to State legislatures, and modifications of laws, or creation of laws, favoring settlement of R. & R. and other labor strikes, etc., by arbitration.

To Friends in their several meeting localities:—To encourage and aid in the

formation of boards of arbitration in factories, stores and companies where many men are employed, for the purpose of preventing or arbitrating differences. To encourage voluntary arbitration of neighborhood differences, wherever we have influence, so as to prevent expensive and irritating law suits.

Committee on Temperance interests:—SUGGESTIONS FOR MEMBERS IN GENERAL IN EACH MEETING'S LIMITS. Continued work in every way that promises good results and is consistent with our peaceable methods, either alone or in association with others. Individual conviction of the need for total abstinence and legal prohibition in behalf of the young, the weak and the vicious, being the strong points in the work. Preventive education in schools; F. D. and day, and in missions, should have large attention.

Committee on Corrupt Literature:—SUGGESTIONS TO MEMBERS IN EACH MEETING'S LIMITS. Circulation of leaflets furnished by the Union. Instruction and counsel in the F. D. and day schools at special times, regarding the effects of evil literature; creation of bands or companies, pledged against vicious and impure literature, and to use influence to induce others to join in this pledge, care to be taken not to include in the prohibition such bright, interesting fiction, as may have no improper teaching or thoughts, simply because it is fiction.

Committee on Prison Reform:—SUGGESTIONS FOR YEARLY MEETING COMMITTEES AND MEMBERS. The usual work in visiting prisons and prisoners, as way opens. Efforts to shut off corrupt literature, and introduce that which is good. Wherever practicable, secure evening, or day schools in jails, where not now existing. Efforts to secure in state prisons and jails a better grade of men for the subordinate positions in immediate oversight of the prisoners; and in all prisons or reformatories, where boys of fifteen years of age and under, or women, are imprisoned, secure if possible, women as matrons.

Committee on Social Purity:—Suggestions to members. Circulate leaflets furnished by the Union. Hold Mothers' Meetings where practicable, and co-operate with the W. C. T. U. in this work when it will increase efficiency. Addresses to boys, carefully prepared, by judicious persons, and perhaps, the formation of White Cross bands, or bands for the same purpose.

To Yearly Meeting Committees:—Efforts by petition or otherwise, to so change State laws as to raise the "age of consent" for girls to 18 years, or as nearly this as possible.

Committee on Dependent Children:—Suggestions to Y. M. committees. Aid in establishing, sustaining and improving institutions for this class, wherein school education and education in habits of industry, morality and good conduct can be given, with a view to passing as rapidly as is best for the child and family, each child into the care of a good home. So far as prac-

ticable, put the public institution upon the cottage or family plan, with central school house, work shop and play house.

Committee on Tobacco Habit:—Circulate leaflets furnished or approved by the Union. Give instruction through day and F. D. schools upon the evil effects of the tobacco habit. Call attention to the occasional serious injury to nervous wives and infant children through inhaling the fumes of tobacco in closed rooms.

Suggestions for the consideration of the Exec. Committee of the Union:—[Included here, as of value to all workers, and to each member of the Ex-Committee in your Y. M. CHAIRMAN PRO-TEM.] Oversight of all literature sent out by our committees. Aid in supplying leaflets needed, and in preparing such as will give the laws of our several states regarding corrupt literature, social vices, sale of cigarettes and tobacco to minors. Investigate as to state laws affecting dependent children, reformatories, etc., with a view to bringing each state up to the best standard in these respects, through suitable legislation.

Send advice regarding lines of work, methods of work, and guards when co-operating with other organizations in our work, to the sub-committees, and through them to our membership. Advise sub-committees, as per suggestions or otherwise, as the Ex. Committee may deem right, and let each feel the connection with the Union through this oversight.

If broader work than is herein indicated is concluded upon, requiring unusually large funds, an approximate estimate of the amount with statement of each Y. M.'s quota being sent to its members of the Union's Exec. Committee, I believe an unofficial collection, throughout our membership, could be made of several times the sum that the Y. M.'s themselves could raise without complaint.

Mary G. Smith:—My special line of work is the very important one of suppressing impure literature, and advancing the social status of thought and action, * * * * and I suggest that the philanthropic union take some active measures in this behalf by way of choice literature; either sending out from their body or recommending some already printed. I would mention some published by the Woman's Temperance Association of Chicago, one on "Literature and Vice," and others, such as "Dress and Vice," "Bad Hygiene vs. Virtue." (Not sure that I have this title exactly right. CHAIRMAN PRO. TEM.) "Pitfalls for our Boys," etc.

James and Rachel W. Whinery:—There is one subject which we hope will receive its due share of attention in your deliberations; that of having matrons appointed to the care of women in all public institutions, charitable, corrective and reformatory.

Phoebe C. Wright:—In Alms Houses the men and women should be in separate buildings. There should not be any children over two years of age in Alms houses. Dependent children should be boarded by the overseers of the poor, in families or in orphan asylums, until good homes are found for

them. They should be visited at their homes, or looked after, until they are able to provide for themselves. All men and women in Alms houses, who are able to work, should have employment. There should be separate apartments for the sick. There should be religious instruction given by the matron. Card playing, smoking and chewing tobacco should be prohibited. Not any (intoxicating) liquors should be used in any way. The buildings should be kept clean; beds and bedding clean and comfortable. There should be plenty of good water for them to do the washing and facilities for bathing.

Jails:—All persons in jails should be employed; for the men, sawing and splitting wood and breaking stone, have been done; for women, sewing. There should be a school in every jail; good books and temperance literature. The men and women should have facilities for washing bed clothes, and all their clothing, each keeping his cell neat, whitewashed and in good order. No children should be placed with older criminals, they should be in a reform or industrial school. Card playing, smoking and chewing tobacco prohibited.

State Prisons and Penitentiaries:—All men should be employed during the day. There should be schools at evening, lectures and trade schools. The women should be placed in a reformatory, far removed from the prison for men, and under the care of women where they should be taught industries, have schools, and careful religious instruction. There should be indefinite sentences. As they reform they should be placed in good families at \$1.50 per week, on trial. If they do not do well they should be returned to the reformatory.

There should be a law in every state as in Iowa. Men and women convicted of *immoral conduct*, should be deemed guilty of a penal offense, and they should be sent to reformatories. No public moneys should be used in any sectarian institution.

John William Hutchinson says: "The only suggestions I have to offer, are, that every thing possible should be done to promote union and co-operative work. The several special committees of the Union should be centers for the general work in their respective fields, particularly so with the committees on Indian affairs, arbitration and the education of the colored people."

CLARKSON BUTTERWORTH, Chairmen pro-tem, Ex. Com. of the Union.

At Genoa Monthly Meeting of Friends held 8th mo. 18th, 1889.

This meeting being officially informed that Lincoln Executive Meeting has united with us in the adoption of the report of the Joint

Committee on the Half Years Meeting, directs that said report be forwarded to the Quarterly meeting and if there approved, to be forwarded to the Yearly Meeting for its final judgment.

REPORT.

The joint committee appointed by Lincoln Executive and Genoa Monthly Meetings having nearly all met and deliberately considered the subject referred to them, were united in making the following proposition for the approval of their respective meetings, viz:

That a Half Years Meeting be established, to be known as Nebraska Half Years Meeting of Friends, and composed of Genoa Monthly and Lincoln Executive Meetings, and to be held on the last 2nd day in Second and Eighth months; at Lincoln in the Second month, and Genoa in the Eighth month at 11 a. m. The Meeting of Ministers and Elders on the 7th day preceding at 2 p. m.

That said Half Years Meeting in its scope and duties shall be identical with a Quarterly Meeting in every respect, except as to the times of holding it.

On behalf of the committee.

GEO. S. TRUMAN, Clerk.

Taken from the minutes of Genoa Monthly Meeting and signed on behalf thereof.

DAVID H. BROWN, Clerk.

At Genoa Monthly Meeting of Friends held 9th mo. 15th, 1889.

The clerk having failed in his duty to forward the report of the Joint Committee of Lincoln Executive and Genoa Monthly Meetings on the proposed Half Year Meeting to the Quarterly Meeting as directed; this meeting now directs that said report be forwarded direct to the Yearly Meeting for its action.

Taken from the minutes.

DAVID H. BROWN, Clerk.

 EXTRACT FROM LINCOLN EXECUTIVE MEETING MINUTES.

The report from the Genoa Monthly Meeting expressing a unity of feeling with the committee appointed to consider the establishment of a half years meeting in Nebraska was read, and the meeting unites with the report of the joint committee.

J. RUSSELL LOWNES, Clerk.

*REPORT OF LIBRARIAN.**To Illinois Yearly Meeting now Sitting:*

DEAR FRIENDS.—The following is the report of Librarian:

Our Penal Machinery and its Victims.....	1	copy.
George Fox's Works.....	8	volumes.
Clarkson's Portraiture of Quakerism.....	3	"
Gougee's History of Quakerism.....	4	"
Clarkson's Review.....	1	"
Disciplines on hand.....	43	copies.
Copies extra finished Extracts.....	2	"

Leaflets on hand:

Free Gospel Ministry.

Divine Worship.

Divine Power as Manifest in Man.

Address to Absent Members.

On Music.

Due Librarian at last report.....	\$3.97
Paid out for postage and express matter.....	5.74
Printing of Statistical blocks.....	3.50
Total paid out.....	\$13.21
Received of Yearly Meeting's Treasurer.....	\$7.47
For two Disciplines.....	.50
	\$7.97
Due Librarian to date.....	\$5.24

ABEL MILLS, Librarian.

Clear Creek, Ill., 9th mo. 16, 1889.

*REPORT OF VISITING COMMITTEE.**To the Illinois Yearly Meeting of Friends now Sitting:*

DEAR FRIENDS:—Your committee have to report a very limited amount of labor performed. As we have viewed the field the demand has seemed great, but we have not seen the way open for us to discharge the duty that we feel to rest not only upon the visiting committee, but on each member of our organization, that is to visit with words of encouragement, the field ripe for this labor.

Three of these members visited all the families near East Jordan Executive Meeting; we attended two regular meetings at a hall in Penrose; two at a union meeting-house near by, and two parlor meetings.

While under a feeling of great weakness we entered upon this work we desire in this manner to acknowledge the goodness of our Heavenly Father in meting unto us that strength so necessary for the work to be completed to His own glory. One dear sister in the Lord exclaiming, "It is not a Friends' meeting, it is the Lord's."

We desire to acknowledge in this work, the valued assistance of a member of a committee appointed for the same purpose by Blue River Quarterly Meeting.

Another member reports having visited Lincoln Executive Meeting with much satisfaction. He reports that life and interest were clearly manifest, producing a good degree of encouragement. The same member in connection with two other members of Genoa Monthly meeting, visited the neighborhood of Garrison, held one appointed meeting and visited nearly all the Friends in that vicinity.

One member of the committee visited twenty families in Fulton County, Ills. With a minute of unity from his monthly meeting, the latter part of 6th month last; held three appointed meetings and one family sitting, within a radius of ten miles. The feeling prevailed that the love of the Father was in the midst.

Upon the location of a former meeting surrounding the dilapidated remains of an old meeting house known as Plainfield meeting, there exists a strong desire for re-organization on the part of members of our society, supplemented by many who are not now members but who are in sympathy with our principles. Verily we feel that the fields are white unto the harvest.

In the latter part of 9th month last, two members of the committee visited all the families of Friends in the neighborhood of Genoa Monthly meeting; attended their first day and monthly meeting; also held two appointed meetings in the country, and one in the town of Genoa. About the same time they also visited Friends at Garrison; holding one appointed meeting in the Methodist meeting house at that place all of which seemed to be profitable occasions.

The committee recommend the continuance of a like committee.

ABEL MILLS, Clerk.

Herewith we append names and residences of isolated members as far as the committee has been able to obtain them.

Blue River Monthly Meeting.—Wm. Coffin, 1038 Chestnut-st., Covington, Ky.;

Rebecca Hobbson, Jeffersonville, Ind., J. D. Heacock and family, Emporia, Volusia county, Florida; Milton Reyman and family, James Brickey and Fulton Bundy, Tekamah, Neb.

East Jordan.—Elmira R. Worrell, Pasadena, Cal.; Sarah E. Huff, Aurora, Ill.; Abia C. John and family, Vanderbilt, Campbell county, Colorado; Elizabeth Chase, Dixon, Ill.; Charles D. John Frederic, Brown county, Dakota; Horace E. John and Wilber H. John, —, Brown county, Dakota; Samuel Lester and wife, William Lester and T. Howard Lester, Hazelhurst, Ogle county, Ill.; John E. Lester, Coleta, Whiteside county, Ill.; Benjamin Lester, Milledgeville, Carroll county, Ill.

Clear Creek Monthly Meeting.—Isaac Vale, Mary A. Vale, A. W. Vale, S. E. Vale, Nathan Vale, Elmira Vale, Eli Vale, Esther R. Mills and Esther Mills, Jr., White Rock, Kansas; Amos Vale, Colorado; William H. Mills and Mary E. Mills, Hardy, Nuckolls county, Neb.; Edwin Vale, Mary A. Swaney, Lincoln, Neb.; Rebecca W. Howard, Chester, Neb.; Thomas Mowery, —, Neb.; Elizabeth Boyle, Lydia Boyle, Wichita, Kans.; Franklin Griffith and Hiram Griffith, Glendive, Montana; Isaac Griffith, Lundy Griffith, Edward Griffith, Des Moines, Iowa; Robert Griffith, address not known; Thomas Rawlings and family, St. Joseph, Mo.; Sabina T. Dickey, Tulare, Cal.; Thos. Nelson, Wisconsin; John B. Smith, Elizabeth Smith, Jonathan K. Mills, Oliver N. and Edith Mills, Halfway, Mo.; John Averill, Terling, Colorado; Sidney Averill, Jr., Denver, Colorado; Elmina Petty, Wilson, Kans.; Jesse Mowery, Tracy, Minn.; Joseph J. Russell, Rebecca Russell, Susie Russell, Anna Stoops, William and Ann Knock, Sinai Allison, Asenath Garretson, Ipava, Fulton county, Ills., Sarah R. Gurney, Nebraska; Russell J. Lownes and family, Lincoln, Neb.; Jane Belangee, Dover, Bureau county, Ill.; Amanda Carpenter, Emmeline C. Underhill, Seneca, Bureau county, Ill.; Kinzie Wood, Bloomington, McLean county, Ill.; David Mills, Chicago; Milton Mills, Chicago; Mary R. Ely, Peoria, Ill.; Sarah P. Parsons, Peoria Ill.; Julia Pollard, Pittsburg, Pa.; Benjamin Ely, Rock Island, Ill.; John W. Price, wife and two children, Great Bend, Barton county, Kans.; Isaac P. Wireman and family, Susan Wireman, Mary A. Barnes, Ottawa, Franklin county, Kans.; Elizabeth Chase, Colorado; Samuel R. Lewis, Ottawa Ill.; William Griffith, Guyserville, California; Eveline Michaels, Ossawatamie, Kansas.

Benjaminville Monthly Meeting.—Edward W. Allen, Lincoln, Neb.; Ira P. Bedell and wife Tryphena, Fairbury, Jefferson county, Neb.; Mary, Charles and Henry Dorland, Bennett, Lancaster county, Neb.; Sarah Fell, Hepner, Oregon; Geo. F., Mary and Deborah Hollinshead, Frank R. Hollinshead, Eldorado, Butler county, Kans.; Fannie Ivans, Great Bend, Kans.; Rufus Shinn, Rosalia, Butler county, Kans.; David R. and Mary Shinn and sons, William and Reeves, Eldorado, Kans.; Isabell Moore, Bennett, Lancaster county, Neb.; Alonzo W. Harvey, Garrison, Butler county, Neb.; Mary Emma Boucher, Rising City, Butler county, Mo.; Eva Anna Mustard, Blue Mound, Livingstone county, Mo.; Clarissa E. Anderson, Dawn, Livingstone

county, Mo.; William Tyson, Mascoutah, St. Clair county, Ills.; Philena Ray and daughters, Oak Park, Cook county, Ills.

Chicago Executive Meeting.—F. Edwin Fredericks, Los Angeles, Cal.; Harriett F. Wright, Deer and Corunna sts., Denver, Colorado; Mary Morris, O'Neil, Neb.; Abel Satterthwaite, Minneapolis, Minn.; Hannah B. Bishop, Duluth, Minn.; Mary W. Plummer, 10 Nicholson Place, St. Louis, Mo.; Jos. P. Plummer, Dixon, Ills.; Ellen John, Marquette, Mich.; Albert Closter, New York City; R. Alice Mills and two children, State Center, Iowa; Moses and Anna Reynolds, Kansas City, Mo.

BRANCHES IN IOWA.

Wapsieonoc Monthly Meeting.—Lydia A. Hughes, Georgia Hughes, Abijah Janney and Franklin Galbraith, wife and children, Marshalltown, Iowa; Margaret Breed, Perry, Iowa; Sarah Cook, Dina Cook and Richard Sanders, Iowa City, Iowa; Sarah Leech, West Branch, Iowa; Julia N. Sharp, William G. Smith, Lizzie Smith, Charles Smith, Mary Smith, Barclay Mundy and Eunice Haines, Chanute, Neosho county, Kans.; Wilmer Walton, Parsons, Kans.; Rebecca P. Chandlee, Denver, Colorado; Marzetta Chandlee, Colorado; Lewis Chandlee, Colorado Springs, Colorado; Elisha Pickering, Reese and Sarah Pickering, and six children, Hannah Barton, Blue Springs, Neb.; Edward Hollingsworth, Missouri Valley, Iowa; Clara Murphy, Steele, Dak.; Daniel Seaman, Peterson, Iowa; Ann Price, Mary H. Conard and Dillon Price, Ida Grove, Iowa; Sarah Holmes, Kearney, Neb.; Jesse Holmes, Jr., Washington, D. C.

Prarie Grove Monthly Meeting.—Edwin Blackburn, 341 A avenue West Side Cedar Rapids, Iowa; William Pickering and family, Keota, Iowa; Lucretia M. Boston, Valisca, Iowa; Samuel Smith and family, Bennett, Lancaster county, Neb.; Elma Wilson and Edith Blackburn, Orleans, Neb.; Hannah J. Smith, No. 2539 J st., Denver, Colorado; Lydia Furkney, Trenton, Mo.; Lewellen Russell, New Albany, Ind.; John Phillips, Red Wing, Minn.; Clarkson and Mary Phillips and family, Gilead, Mo.; Phoebe Harpstir, Bennett, Neb.; William Price, Proof, Wichita county, Kans.

Marietta Monthly Meeting.—William Johnson and family, John Carr, Mitchelville, Iowa; Pennington Davis and wife, Reasnor, Jasper county, Iowa; Joel Hoag and family, Tama, Iowa; Evans Beitler and family, Schickley, Fill county, Neb.; Vincent Carr and family, Vickers family, address not known; Joseph Yates and family, Pasadena, Cal.; Philena Hambleton and daughter, Grinnell, Iowa; Dr. Geo. Whealen and family, Waterville, Dakota; Emmor Marsh, Mound City, Kans.; Anna Marsh Bartow, Chowan, Minn.

It is desirable that such Friends as may change their location notify the chairman of our committee on Isolated Friends of such change and their postoffice address, in order that they may be supplied with

our Minutes and such other literature as we may have for distribution. Also, that their location may be known so as to be reached by traveling visiting Friends.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ISOLATED MEMBERS.

To Illinois Yearly Meeting now Sitting:

DEAR FRIENDS:—The committee in the interests of our isolated membership have not been unmindful of the object of our appointment. We have forwarded to various parts of the heritage such literature as was at our disposal, including some articles furnished to local papers touching upon our testimonies. A few meetings were held by appointment to good satisfaction. We have not been able to complete the list of our isolated membership with other Yearly Meetings; hope to do so in the near future. Feeling that there is a growing need for the establishment of a Friends' newspaper somewhere in the west, to advocate and uphold our testimonies, and to give the current events of the day; omitting the objectionable features. We recommend the subject to the Yearly Meeting.

On behalf of committee.

ABEL MILLS, Clerk.

Illinois Yearly Meeting of Friends sends greetings to its absent members:

As we assemble from year to year and feel the thrilling emotion of the Father's love to draw us more closely; yea: to run down to the nethermost part of our lives, enabling us to submit to the quickening influence, controlling our human disposition; we feel that we carry home with us many precious legacies.

And as we are thus brought together and remember the broad expanse of human life that is presented from thus neighboring with the body, we realize the great importance for us, who have this great blessing, to be more faithful and thankful, believing that many prayers ascend from these silent absent ones for the prosperity of our zion.

Dear brothers and sisters, let us assure you that we feel you a part of this great whole, and desire that you thus consider yourselves. 'Tis the little constant drops of water that forms the refreshing

shower; 'tis the gathering together of the elements of moisture that constitutes the clouds from which comes the gentle rain, so in like manner, 'tis the collecting in of these seeming fragmentary spirits that assist in forming the bonds of christian love and fellowship.

We trust we can impress upon you the deep yearning love that flows out to all parts of the land, and the strength we derive from these silent influences coming back freighted with the prayer of the absent brother and sister. So remember dear ones, we feel you more closely united to us than you sometimes realize. You know of the inspiration and revelation of God to each individual soul, and to this we commend all, knowing that 'tis this that permeates the whole heritage and causes the life blood to circulate through the entire body. Remember the part you occupy, that though we may never meet in the outward, still there comes before our spirit's view the silver cords of Divine love that thrills our being with gentle touches from every part of the land, and we glance along the love polished chain and find much to encourage us in our labors for our society.

With these feelings of fellowship we desire to speak in the language of our Lord, "Be of good cheer," and wherever your lot be cast, remember we must all realize the christian life to be one of rare qualities; the fruitage of constant blessing to every kindred, tongue and people; and that if obedient to the first principles, the immediate revelation of God to the soul, we carry with us the key that unlocks the world to christian light; that it is one constant development, ever expanding and fruitifying; producing buds, blossoms, and at last we gather the sheaves of divine knowledge as we go here and there along the pathway of life. So let us all keep the watchword, "Be of good cheer." Our privileges are of great moment, and believe our principles are of the highest type; simplicity and practical fruit, being the component parts.

Let all, wherever we are, turn the eye of soul to the inner temple where we will find the Christ, and as we labor to do as Jesus advised Peter, "Follow thou Me," we will be led in paths of pleasantness and peace. As brothers and sisters of one common Father, we send greetings, tending, and we trust, to cement the bonds of christian fellowship, which are above and beyond the tie of natural kinship, therefore, let it be the most sacred thought of our lives, that no differ-

ence how far we are separated in the outward, we are the integral parts of the one grand whole.

With a prayer for the continual unity in the bonds of peace, we remain your friends.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT.

To Illinois Yearly Meeting of Friends:

Your committee appointed last year to consider the subject on page 19 of Yearly Meeting minutes of 1887, entitled "Confirmation of Birthright Members," report that in their judgment, the four words "as may desire it," in the fourth line of paragraph two, should be stricken out and the balance be used as contemplated by those meetings who feel a necessity for such actions, but should not necessarily be considered a part of discipline.

Signed on behalf of the committee.

ISAIAH LIGHTNER.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FIRST-DAY SCHOOL INTERESTS.

From the reports we have received from various localities, the work in First-day school interests has greatly increased. We feel we have great cause for encouragement in that direction, as we believe the prosperity of the Society of Friends greatly depends on the First-day school workers.

Our Ex. Committee issued an order dated 1st Month, 9th, 1888, on our treasurer to remit the sum of \$40, our quota of General Conference fund to Wm. Hall, treasurer of General Committee, Swathmore, Pa.

Signed on behalf of the committee.

O. P. MILLS.

ANSWERS TO QUERIES FOR MEETING OF MINISTERS AND ELDERS.

Ans. to 1st Query.—Ministers and Elders are generally punctual in the attendance of meetings so far as ability is offered, and encour-

age their families in the same religious duty. Two meetings report a lack of attendance at mid-week meetings.

Ans. to 2nd Query.—We believe that our ministers in the exercise of their gifts, seek for and give evidence of divine qualification.

Ans. to 3rd Query.—We believe Ministers and Elders maintain a good degree of fellowship one with another, and with the meetings to which they belong; and a concern is manifested for the advancement of truth and the proper observance of our good order.

Ans. to 4th Query.—Ministers and Elders endeavor by their conduct and conversation to be examples of uprightness and moderation, though they sometimes fail through weakness to reach the higher standards. More care to instruct their families in the principles and testimonies of the society is desirable.

REQUEST FROM MINISTERS AND ELDERS.

The meeting of Ministers and Elders request of the Yearly Meeting the privilege of having a minute of its exercises published with the answers to the queries of that body in the Yearly Meetings minutes.

Signed by direction of the meeting.

LAURETTA H. NICHOLS, Clerk.

MINUTES OF EXERCISES FOR MINISTERS AND ELDERS.

The hungry fed by a miracle with food for the body, in one or two instances in history, are fed day by day with bread for the soul by the same Master's hand.

Drawn together by his redeeming love, and from localities wide apart, a little company had gathered in silent waiting, judges and counselors in the household of that faith, which works by love, they felt deeply the truth, "without me ye can do nothing." Life rose into dominion, and bathed in its light, the table was spread, and the broken bread more than sufficed. In gratitude these disciples felt it a duty to gather up the fragments that nothing be lost.

We were urged to bear in mind that while enjoying the social feature of thus mingling, we should not forget the higher objects for which we have assembled, and when we separate to return to our va-

rious homes, we may feel that we have been made the better for having been here.

The answer to one of our queries regarding the attendance of our meetings, that sometimes we allow our temporal affairs to take undue importance, called forth some pertinent remarks. We think our presence and oversight indispensable to the existence and well-being of the little world of which we feel ourselves the center; yet when called to leave this earth and all our friends, a few tears and regrets a few kindly words, a short period of mourning; and we are as if we had never been; the great world outside has never missed us, and our own little world moves on after a while unmindful of our removal from their midst. This should remind us of our own littleness compared to the whole universe, and yet the soul that actuates this short-lived body, lives on in a glorious immortality, provided our life here has been such as to secure it.

A desire was expressed that Ministers and Elders might dwell in unity, often counseling profitably one with another, and have a care over the young and growing ministry, for its nurture and help in a spirit of love for the instrument, and desire for the honor of truth.

A comparison was instituted between the discoveries recently made by excavations of buried cities in other lands, and our spiritual life. In the former, the traveler in search of historical truth descends step after step, till doors are reached, opening into large and lighted rooms, on the walls of which are handwritings in unknown tongues, to decipher which, requires knowledge; so the seeker after spiritual truth must go down the steps of humility till he finds openings into the chambers illuminated by truth, under the guidance of which, he is made capable of reading the handwriting. In this condition of humility, the command will sometimes be heard, "Do not undertake to speak, *because* thou art a minister, simply to please the people; and when thou doest speak, be brief, and sit down when thou art done.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EXERCISES.

Our meeting on First-day was characterized by a solemn exercise voiced by one who reminds us that wherever two or three are gather-

ed in the Master's name, there He is in the midst. But we must come in His power if we would exert an influence that is more than transient. If we become the perfect man referred to in the Scriptures, we must enter into the attributes of God as manifested through Christ, chief of which are love, mercy and justice. As a people we call our individual members to a higher plane of spiritual and practical life. The daily prayer should be, "What will thou this day have me do?"

A dear aged brother feelingly called us to consider the subject of prayer as the New Testament directed. "Pray not to be heard of men, but enter into the closet and shut the door." The hearts of exercised fathers and mothers are often a closet of prayer even when engaged in their daily pursuits. The constant aspiration should be to reach *not* to the standard of *Quaker* righteousness only, but to Christ's righteousness.

Our attention was called to the Society's belief in a germ of spiritual life implanted in each soul as a guide into all truth; and that the great hindrance to the spread of Christianity is the lack of a sense of individual responsibility. At the last we must stand upon our own merits and not upon those of our church or its members.

We were exhorted to allow the higher impulses of our natures to operate, resulting only in good to ourselves and others, while the domination of the lower nature reduces us to the level of what may be termed human animals.

Obedience to the outward law of the church is a help, but not all that God requires. As the salvation of the human soul is the most important thing in life, an appeal was made that each would covenant to do his own part in this work for mankind, by holding aloft the standard of truth, as a light to all who walk in darkness.

The simple character of our religion was commented upon by a speaker, who felt that the great need of the world to-day is, to be ridden of false religion, as this causes much unhappiness, which was never intended by God. Obedience to his voice brings happiness.

The afternoon session was opened by an appeal to all present to join in the true worship of the living God.

From the text, "Praise ye the Lord in his sanctuary; Praise Him

in the firmament of his power," some beautiful illustrations from nature were adduced to confirm a belief in His existence. We were reminded that He is still willing to reveal Himself to His children.

A friend enumerated some causes that bring unrest and trouble, such as indulgence in natural propensities, and uncontrolled passion; which latter often lead to abuse of dumb creatures. "Blessed are the merciful for they shall obtain mercy."

The audience was baptized in close sympathy with a deeply exercised mind, who rejoiced in the universal belief in one God, and the hope that we would all be followers of Him. We were called to consider the small things that all could comprehend. We were exhorted to examine our hearts for the grain of mustard seed unto which the kingdom of heaven was likened; and when found, to nurture it with the light of truth, opening all avenues to admit it, and it will grow to our comfort and strength. We were entreated to start right in our christian course, but even then we sometimes get wrong as a result of outside influences, and it should be our constant prayer to be preserved from the world, even while in it. Our time here is so short we cannot afford to be idle. Our individual responsibility is so great that we cannot go up or down without taking others with us. Every act of obedience raises us one round higher on the ladder of faith.

We were tenderly admonished to go to the erring in the spirit of love rather than with the rod of chastisement, if we would influence them for good. We were encouraged to hold the light, which is His eternal truth, just as high as our feeble strength will admit, as a beacon to those who may be walking in darkness.

"The Gospel has walked in majesty among us this afternoon;" were the words with which a venerable Father in Israel expressed the solemn feeling of the assembly, also briefly alluding to the words of Scripture, "I and my Father are one."

A dear sister presented the thought that the command to bring our bodies a living sacrifice to God, was a daily and hourly duty, and that we should not shrink from a public demonstration thereof.

Our business meeting on Second-day morning was opened in solemn quiet, broken by the vocal expression of a hope that we each might

look within for that spiritual light which alone can give life to our Yearly Meeting; even if but a few dwell therein, it will be felt by all.

The reading of the epistles from other Yearly Meetings, called forth an abundance of testimony. Their hopeful character encouraged a brother to believe that the crisis is past, and though the Society is still weak, yet with nurturing care, and the stimulus of young and vigorous life, faith is justified in a more prosperous future. Those older in experience must go to their younger brothers and sisters, even as Christ went to those who heeded his ministry.

Referring to the parable of the wheat and the tares, it was earnestly and affectionately urged that we devote our energies to cultivating the good, rather than to up-rooting the wrong; as the wheat flourishes under the husbandman's care, the tares will disappear; so, under the influence of love we may revive our society.

Another friend noted the same true spirit exercising all the Yearly Meetings. If there are disturbances, it is evidences of the workings of the Spirit. Faithfulness of individual members is the only sure way to upbuild society; and when we put hands to the plow, we must not look backward, but forward where our work lies, finding consolation in the belief that Truth will ever find witnesses on the face of the earth.

We were entreated to believe it were better to be consecrated to the interests of Christianity than to those of the world.

A visiting brother was rejoiced at the unity of sentiment permeating the epistles. He said the Temperance question was causing much disturbance, but a calming hand was above all. It is a matter of congratulation that no great question is causing discension among us. What we cannot now understand, we may safely leave in the hand of God, assured that it will be revealed in His time and way if it becomes essential.

Another friend expressed sympathy with the views of a previous speaker that the crisis is past. A dear sister dropped the thought that when one is thoroughly convinced of wrong, then is the time to abandon it. Applied to the sin of war she felt that we should protest against it in a more pronounced and public manner.

Other expressions in the Epistles followed, and we were reminded that our business here at this time was of a three-fold nature.. First,

consideration of our present condition, as shown by the answers to queries. Second, a retrospect of the work of the past year, as expressed in the reports of committies; and third, a preparation for the labors of the ensuing year. By seeking the aid of the Spirit we shall be prepared for any testimony or business as it appears.

The 1st query, as regards a full attendance at our meetings, called forth much valuable testimony upon this, the more important of which are briefly noted: Never lost anything by attending meetings; need all the help we can get in our Christian life, and meetings are a great help. First indication of decline in religious matters is the vacant seat. Too much is often expected of professing members, forgetting they are human; too great a tendency to keep the faults of our fellows before us, and our own behind us. Friends want to go to meeting when they are in the light. Query why people do not want to go. How far are the ministers accountable for such a condition? Must get in right relation to the Father, when we will not only avoid doing wrong, but be active in the right. Many, now far removed from society, are discovering how much they love it and only need some one to gather them in. Make it plain that we want all to attend meetings, and seek to find the cause of absence.

In regard to the 2nd query it was intimated that we may detract from another by conduct as well as word. All our queries are based on love which is our keystone. Love opens the door, when cold duty could not. It is often necessary to speak painful truth, but if done in love, it will be received in the same spirit. A concerned sister cautioned us against repeating injurious things, even if true.

The exercise under the 3rd query was in the line of regretting the tone of current newspaper literature. The general expression was in favor of individual effort in our several localities, conducted in the spirit of fairness; also a caution to parents to use judgment in the selection of papers for the family circle. Parents were admonished not to prohibit special, even if objectionable, reading matter without first gaining the consent of their children; children cannot be reared in ignorance of their surroundings—knowledge is often a shield. A matter of regret that legislatures handle the subject of impure literature with gloves.

Under the 4th query we were cautioned against the misuse of

alcohol in medicine, many physicians not now considering it essential.

The 6th query called forth a protest against trying to get something for nothing. We should not raise money for a public purpose by means that would not be legitimate in private business. Other corroborative testimony followed.

The 7th query called out pertinent remarks relative to the beauty and propriety of paying as we go, also in favor of living within the limits of truth. It is right to economize in order to keep the engagements that we make by virtue of our membership in the society. We should set our children an example of moderation in all our purchases; intemperance not being confined to drinking, alone.

Under the 8th query we were feelingly reminded that as all vital testimony is based in God, to disobey His commands is a violation of of such testimony.

The condition of isolated Friends was feelingly considered, and they were encouraged, where at all practicable, to hold little meetings in Christ's name, remembering that where two, or three are gathered in His name there He is in the midst of them. Such meetings will have their influence in the community where held. It was suggested that if Friends would use forethought when changing their residences, they might often settle where meetings at the time are, or soon could be established. At the same time it was stated that scattered Friends might be the means of disseminating our precious and peculiar principles, if only they are faithful to their convictions.

The subject of a Half Year Meeting in Nebraska, feelingly presented, was warmly approved by the meeting, and encouragement was offered them.

Our meeting for worship on 4th day morning was addressed by unusually favored speakers. Religion is love, and its potency in the family circle, and the gospel of good cheer, were prominent thoughts in one discourse. Another speaker addressing different conditions, desired that love and tenderness should mark our intercourse with little children, and that we should carefully avoid confusing or darkening words, but give them what truth their young minds can grasp. The natural desire for pleasure in the young was recognized, but they

were reminded that much unhappiness is caused by gratifying it in an improper manner, oft-times through ignorance. Let mothers keep self-control amid noise and disobedience, and let fathers turn within to ask what is right, and govern heart and voice. Another friend's exercise was to the effect that we can do great good among others, by living out a consistent christian life. Parents may give moral education, but knowledge of God comes from within. Sympathy was expressed for those who are bearing family, neighborhood, or national burdens.

We were entreated by a sister, to remember that we are the temples of the living God. We should retire often within these temples, closing the door to outward things, for closer communion with the Father of all. After some other acceptable discourses, the meeting closed after fervent supplication to our universal Father.

On 4th day afternoon the meeting listened to the report of its Philanthropic committees, endorsing the action they had taken and the work done, and encouraging them to continue faithfully in the path of duty.

On 5th day morning a memorial of our deceased friend, Thomas D. Tomlinson, was read; many touching tributes to his memory and worth were offered by those with whom he had been wont to mingle in social and religious communion.

The report of the committee on "The Confirmation of Birthright Members," drew forth many earnest and thoughtful expressions. Parents were urged to extend more care in inculcating a knowledge of our principles in the minds of their children. Instances were cited showing the consequences of neglect in this particular.

On 2nd day evening a children's meeting was held; several speakers addressed them, and a lively interest was manifested. It was the judgment of friends that these seasons were indeed profitable.

A parlor meeting on 4th day evening was an occasion of deep and tender exercise to many minds. The testimony to the saving power of the spirit was strong and convincing, and the voice of prayerful thanksgiving ascended for the rich blessings lavished upon us. But while acknowledging the supreme efficacy of the spirit within, the

importance of friendly counsel and sympathy were feelingly portrayed. All appeared to share the feeling that it was good to be there.

As the time of separation approached, our people were drawn into a deep and tender unity of feeling. The voice of supplication was heard commending us all to the loving care of a beneficent Father. We were also affectionately admonished to remember in the hour of trouble and anxiety, that to us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and to allow the government, at such times to be upon his shoulders. "Stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord," was the language of another exercised spirit. The promises of the Father to his faithful children, were beautifully portrayed to us, and must have inspired many hearts to claim them for their own. Tender farewells were uttered, almost as it seemed, in the language of inspiration and prophesy, and the whole assembly were dipped as it were, in a baptism of love, under the influence of which our Yearly Meeting was solemnly concluded.

MARY C. WHITE, Clerk of Committee.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

	Nob'ska Half Year Meeting		Total Nebraska Half Year Meeting		Prairie Grove Quarterly Meeting			Total Prairie Grove Meeting			Blue River Quarterly Meeting							Total Blue River Meeting		Total Returning to Illinois
	Lincoln Executive Meeting	Monthly Meeting	Marletta Monthly Meeting	Prairie Grove Monthly Meeting	Wapleson Monthly Meeting	Clear Creek Monthly Meeting	Blue River Monthly Meeting	Benjaminville Monthly Meeting	Richland Monthly Meeting	East Jordan Executive Meeting	Chicago Executive Meeting	Blue River Executive Meeting	Chicago Executive Meeting	Blue River Executive Meeting	Blue River Executive Meeting	Chicago Executive Meeting	Total Blue River Meeting	Total Returning to Illinois		
No. of Families, both parents members.....	11	14	25	32	19	72	27	18	39	8	10	19	10	4	4	111	208			
No. Families, one parent only members.....	3	19	22	35	15	16	38	46	25	17	38	46	17	11	11	130	190			
No. of Adult Male Members.....	14	21	35	50	33	117	61	38	50	15	50	66	21	6	6	211	363			
No. of Adult Female Members.....	16	27	43	69	33	134	67	41	50	10	23	34	14	21	21	216	393			
No. of Minor Male Members.....	5	23	28	20	16	62	19	26	20	4	6	5	1	1	1	82	165			
No. of Minor Female Members.....	5	23	28	18	12	47	18	20	19	8	5	1	1	1	1	75	150			
TOTAL NO. OF MEMBERS.....	41	86	127	163	133	394	165	168	139	35	63	23	23	23	23	627	1148			
No. Non-Resident Members.....	0	47	47	78	18	136	48	20	46	1	25	22	0	0	0	212	335			
No. of Friends' children attending school under the care of Friends.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Average attendance of members during the last year past at meet'g First-Days.....	23	16	39	25	25	40	35	65	45	54%	5	5	5	5	5	237½	366½			
Average attendance of non-members during last year past, meet'g on First-Day.....	6	*	6	5	10	18	15	28	20	2	0	4	8	77	106					
Average attendance during last year past at meet'g Week Days other than Monthly Executive or Monthly.....	4	4	4	0	4	4	3	0	0	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	3			
No. of Members at beginning of year.....	27	78	105	163	135	392	179	163	131	35	34	60	24	27	27	626	1123			
New members from birthls during year.....	3	1	4	1	4	6	3	0	3	0	1	0	1	0	1	7	17			
New members from Application or Request during year.....	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	4			
New Members by Certificate during year.....	13	8	21	1	0	1	1	4	4	0	2	0	2	0	0	11	33			
TOTAL ADDITIONS DURING YEAR.....	17	9	26	2	1	8	3	9	8	0	3	0	3	0	23	57	57			
Membership at beginning of year plus additions during the year.....	44	87	131	165	133	397	182	168	147	35	63	24	24	24	24	653	1181			
No. members deceased during year.....	1	0	2	1	3	6	5	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	7	15			
No. members Released or Withdrawn.....	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2			
Members moved to other meet'gs whose certificate of membership was forw'ded.....	0	0	0	0	0	2	8	0	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	20	22			
TOTAL LOSS OF MEMBERS.....	1	1	2	2	3	4	9	14	4	0	1	1	1	1	1	20	31			
Total No. members year ending 9mo, 1889.....	43	86	129	163	133	391	168	168	135	35	62	34	62	23	23	625	1145			

*Not Computed. †No Meeting. ‡No. at West Liberty 15, Highland 25. §Hoopstown 28½, Richland 26. ¶West Liberty 3, Highland 5.

MEMORIAL.

OF MARIETTA MONTHLY MEETING, CONCERNING
THOMAS DEWUS TOMLINSON.

Thomas Dewus Tomlinson, was born 5th-mo., 22nd, 1821, near Mt. Pleasant, Jefferson County, Ohio, his parents being Isaac Tomlinson and Mary Dewus. His father, though being a chairmaker by trade, lived on a farm, so that the early life of the son was that of a farmer boy.

His education was what he obtained at the district school near his home, supplemented by a few terms at Loydsville, a short distance away. As a boy he was inclined to be quick tempered and impulsive, but generous and unresentful.

On the 27th of 3rd month, 1844, he was married to Hannah Iden Evans, daughter of Jonathan Evans and Elizabeth Iden. The young couple beginning their married life near the home of his parents. They soon removed however, to a farm on "Wheeling Hill," where they resided until 1851, when they removed to Salem, where he engaged in the mercantile trade. Not being well satisfied, however, in 1854 they removed to Marietta, Marshall county, Iowa, then the county seat of that county. The country being new and undeveloped, the usual privations of pioneer life were encountered with the hopefulness and cheerfulness characteristic of those early days. In 1863 they removed to a farm two miles from Marietta, where they resided during the remainder of his life. Nine children were born to them, four of whom died in infancy or early childhood.

He died on the 20th day of 10th month 1888, of typhoid pneumonia; his wife, his sister, Rebecca T. Marsh, and all of his surviv-

ing children with a few near and dear friends being with him at the last moment.

He possessed a sensitive nervous organization, quick perceptions and strong reason. His literary taste was excellent, keenly appreciating true merit, but deprecating anything light or sensational; especially fond of poetry. He cared much for the beauty of the thought, but felt a keener enjoyment if finely and artistically expressed; culture and refinement strongly attracting him. He was a good reader, and gave his family and friends much pleasure in his rendition of whatever appealed to him as particularly meritorious. Cordial in his manner, he much enjoyed social intercourse with his friends, and while strong in his dislikes, was never rude or offensive. Uncompromising in his advocacy of what he believed to be truth, he was equally earnest in combating evil.

At an early age he showed a decided love for philanthropic work, soon becoming much interested in various reforms. Believing slavery to be one of the greatest of evils, he became a radical Abolitionist, his convictions being so strong, that for a number of years he abstained from voting, claiming that the exercise of the franchise, so long as slavery was tolerated by the general government, made him a party to its lawful continuance. His radical methods led to an estrangement from the Ohio Yearly Meeting of Friends, of which he was a birthright member; the meeting being more conservative on the slavery question. This estrangement, however, did not long survive the abolition of slavery and the better feeling resulting.

He took an active part in Temperance Reform, engaging in all the movements to suppress the liquor traffic. Toward the close of his life, when the great Iowa campaign against the saloon was fought and won, he was always found at the front, and contributed what he could toward arousing that public sentiment which demanded and obtained the present Iowa Prohibitory Liquor Law.

During the period of his alienation from the Ohio Yearly Meeting, he seemed desirous for religious companionship, but was too liberal in his ideas to affiliate with any of the churches around him, feeling as he did, that a religious belief should not be accepted until sanctioned by reason; and it seeming to him that the evidence given did not furnish sufficient ground for belief, hence doubt and uncertainty. How-

ever, in the spring of 1866, he allied himself with a little meeting of Friends, which afterwards became the Marietta Monthly Meeting, and he soon felt a strong religious awakening, he realized that he had at last found his home, his doubts vanishing in the illuminating of "light within," placed there by the Heavenly Father. And he firmly believed this Christ within the soul, to be sufficient to guide to all truth, love and harmony.

In this belief he lived and labored, his strongest desire seeming to be to lead others to the same "Light" that had dispelled his own doubts. Filled with this desire he engaged earnestly in the ministry, (he was acknowledged as a minister by Marrietta Monthly Meeting held Sixth month, 9th, 1877) his voice being often heard in the Meetings of Friends in praise of the Heavenly Father and the Great Pattern and Saviour of Man, Jesus Christ. A few weeks before his death he felt so strong a desire to revisit the home of his childhood and other places where dwelt Friends he had known, as to be willing to sacrifice time and personal comfort (for he was far from well) to do so, attending meetings at various places with a considerable degree of comfort and satisfaction.

He felt it his duty to be present at all our meetings allowing no personal considerations or inclemency of the weather to prevent his attendance. He was much interested in Friends First-day Schools, and by his words, example and constant attendance, added materially to the interest and success of the school of which he was a member.

He believed in but one baptism, that of the Holy Ghost; that the atonement comes through the enlightenment and vivification of the conscience, by the inner or Christ Light, leading man to "cease to do evil, learn to do well," making them "at one" with Christ. He believed in the resurrection of the spiritual man not of the material; and that men would be finally judged for what they had done, by a Merciful Father, knowing their weaknesses and temptations with a judgment sternly just. In a word, he based all his religion on the commandment, "Love the Lord thy God with all thy might and all

thy soul, and thy neighbor as thyself;" and believed with the poet
Whittier,

"To be saved is simply this;
Salvation from our selfishness."

Signed on behalf of the Marietta Monthly Meeting of Friends, by

9th-mo. 7th, 1889. LILLIE EDSALL, }
CLARA PYLE, } Clerks.

Read in and approved by Prairie Grove Quarterly Meeting, held
9th-mo. 11th, 1889. BENJ. T. NICHOLS, Clerk.

Signed by direction and in behalf of Illinois Yearly Meeting held
at Clear Creek, Ills., from the 16th of 9th-mo., to the 19th of the
same inclusive, 1889. OLIVER WILSON, Clerk.

EPISTLES.

FROM THE NEW YORK YEARLY MEETING OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS HELD IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK, FROM THE 27TH TO THE 31ST OF FIFTH MONTH, 1889.

To Illinois Yearly Meeting of Friends:

DEAR FRIENDS:—As we are again gathered together for the purpose of attending to the weighty concerns of the Church, our feelings are drawn to address you in brotherly love, to inform you how the cause of Truth is prospering amongst us, and to show you the nearness of feeling we have with all who are working with us in the holy cause.

As we have listened to the reading of the different epistles, and to the reports from our subordinate Meetings, we have felt that there is great encouragement; and that the signs of the times furnish renewed assurances that Friends continue to be deeply concerned to “Mind the Light.”

There is an awakening in the minds of many, both young and old, to the importance of our testimony of the Spirituality of religion; that it is of necessity an inward work, and not a mere acceptance of any special form of belief; that our hearts must be clean, and our lives must be pure, before we can lay any claim to the possession of religion. We believe also that the religious world generally is gravitating more and more to the views that Friends have held since their rise as a Society. We find many of their teachers are setting forth a more spiritual doctrine, and calling their hearers to give more attention to the direction of the Holy Spirit, and less stress is laid upon a blind acceptance of faith. Therefore we feel that we should not be

discouraged, but rather encouraged, and strengthened to lay aside the hindering things of tradition and prejudice, and press forward in the precept and practice of any, and all principles which men stand in need of to-day, to help them to live better and purer lives.

We are also greatly encouraged by the marked interest shown by the young who have attended our Meeting this year, by the attention they have given to the various proceedings of our body, and by the good understanding they seem to have of our principles, as evidenced in their public and private communications.

A growing interest is manifested in the First-day schools; and we trust that they will be so conducted that our young people may become acquainted more fully with the entire reasonableness of our principles, and learn to give an intelligent reason for the faith that is in them. If the principles which we hold as essential are really different from, and superior to those regarded as essential by nearly all other denominations, then is it not clearly our duty to see to it that our young people are instructed in these things, and thus enabled to withstand the specious influences which lead many out from among us into other organizations.

The committees on the various branches of Philanthropic Labor have been engaged throughout the past year, as way has opened. The subject of Temperance is receiving continued attention. While we regret exceedingly that our reports show that we are not entirely clear of the unnecessary use of alcoholic liquors, we feel the importance of urging all to exert their influence in every consistent way, for the suppression of this giant wrong.

And now with an earnest desire that we may all be enabled to yield a more perfect obedience to the ever-present voice of the universal Father, we remain your friends.

Signed by direction of New York Yearly Meeting of Friends.

WM. H. WILLITS, Clerk.

FROM NEW YORK YEARLY MEETING OF WOMEN FRIENDS HELD BY AD-
JOURNMENTS, FROM THE 27TH OF FIFTH MONTH, TO THE 31ST OF THE
SAME INCLUSIVE, 1889.

To the next Illinois Yearly Meeting of Women Friends:

DEAR SISTERS:—We turn to you with tender greeting, and a

warm feeling strengthened by the love in your epistle. This Yearly Meeting labors under the same burdens that you are bearing, and perhaps greater, so many of us being subject to the worldly pressure of a great city that can hardly fail of its effects in the scattering process we so much deplore. We are endeavoring by earnest and faithful labor in the First-day schools, to resist this tendency and we think we have a measure of success.

Dear friends from afar have brought to us the loving messages of old, bearing upon the vital parts of our religious welfare. There has been a clarion call to all who are without the walls of Jerusalem, to come up unto them, and to those within, to tarry until that voice which lights the inmost recesses of the soul, says, "Come put on thy armor, for I have need of thee." Then shall they run and faint not, for the Lord of Hosts is with them.

In the acknowledgement of our deficiencies, we have cause for much humility, which we hope may lead to that closer dependence upon the Heavenly Father, in watchfulness and prayer, which alone can make us faithful unto death. Under this guidance, may we with you, allow our hands and hearts to go out to the suffering of our kind; and if in earnest zeal, we drop for a moment the guiding Hand, let us return humbly to our Father's house, and without discouragement, go forth again at his bidding, with renewed strength, and greater care, to that never-ending struggle with the evil sin has brought forth. Oh! Sisters, let us bear always in mind that every one of these troubles arise from transgression, and beware, lest in some of these pitfalls, our strength shall be engulfed. "Keep thine eye single to the light," is a command which forever remaineth.

We are anxious at present, over much needed reform in our prison laws, and Friends have joined with others, in urging upon authorities, a system of labor necessary to the well-being of prisoners, and the appointment of police matrons in the station houses of our great cities.

The cause of the Colored people of the south, through eloquent statement of their needs, has awakened much feeling, and strengthened our purpose to continue aid in this direction.

The Indian question is of renewed interest, showing that Friends

have not forgotten a race that has always enlisted their sympathies and efforts.

In regard to Temperance, we, with you, raise no uncertain voice, though we have not found the way open for much labor as a Society in the past year.

The need of Councils of Arbitration to settle difficulties within and without the borders of our commonwealth, has not failed to elicit attention, and we believe that the strenuous efforts now being made to this end, will have beneficent results. In all things, we have only each to do her little portion, one of the littles that make the whole, and rejoice with great thankfulness that the increase is our Father's, and therefore not dependent on weak hands, but on overmastering strength, which shall prevail. And now, in that love which maketh not afraid, but girdeth with the armor of righteousness, we bid you an affectionate farewell, and are your sisters.

Signed on behalf of New York Yearly Meeting of Women Friends.

AMANDA K. MILLER, Clerk.

FROM OHIO YEARLY MEETING OF FRIENDS HELD AT SALEM BY ADJOURNMENTS FROM THE 26TH OF 8TH MONTH, TO THE 29TH OF THE SAME INCLUSIVE, 1889.

To Illinois Yearly Meeting:

DEAR FRIENDS:—During this season of religious intercourse, we feel that there has been an out-pouring of the Spirit among us, such as is sure to be of lasting benefit, and while in our numerical weakness we do not feel that we should be expected to assume to suggest measures to bodies so graciously favored as your own, yet we do wish to express our gratification of the very satisfactory results of this session of our body.

We have had with us several visiting ministers and friends in membership with our society, whose testimony, as delivered to us, has encouraged us greatly, as we feel that such a work must be regarded as having for its author a higher power than man, and that He is thus promoting His cause upon earth through these human instrumentalities. We note with great pleasure the appeals of these friends, urging us to seek "the light" which is to be found through

Jesus Christ, and the importance of giving due evidence of our faith by our works. We deplore any tendency to skepticism, and these strong expressions of christian confidence have fallen upon us as a gentle shower on a parched landscape.

The question of Temperance is one in which we all feel great interest, and as a meeting, as well as individuals, we feel it one of our highest duties to do that which to us seems best to further the interests of this noble work, and to that end the committee on this subject was continued to labor as way may open.

The Indian committee and Philanthropic committee both made reports satisfactory to this meeting, but neither have succeeded in accomplishing much in an organized way. On the subject of First-day schools, there seems to be a general sentiment that they are an auxillary in the building up of society, many of the children attending remaining in our meeting, and seem to be growing into an interest in the work of society.

While we have no schools under the care of our meeting, yet we recognize the great importance of affording the young under our care, every possible opportunity to acquire such an education as will best fit them for the responsibilities of this life, and lead them to that greater inheritance beyond. In this connection we feel to express our appreciation of the generous gift of our late friend, John M. George.

That these annual meetings may increase in interest and usefulness, is the sincere desire of your friends.

Signed in and by direction of the meeting aforesaid by
JOSEPH S. HARTLEY, Clerk.

FROM OHIO YEARLY MEETING OF WOMEN FRIENDS, HELD BY ADJOURNMENTS FROM THE 25TH OF EIGHTH MONTH, TO THE 29TH OF THE SAME INCLUSIVE, 1889.

To Illinois Yearly Meeting of Women Friends:

DEAR SISTERS:—Once more we are gathered together to worship the great Father of all, and while we humbly ask that his blessing rests upon us, we also desire to be enabled to send a strengthen-

ing word to others engaged in the work of his kingdom. Epistles from our Sister Yearly Meetings have been read, which have given evidence of His overshadowing presence, and we have been encouraged thereby to be faithful to His leadings, that we may contribute to the establishing of His glory on earth.

As He came to his own in former days, so He comes to us now. In that time they knew Him not; selfsatisfied and blind they crucified the innocent life. That life is with us to-day; shall we commit the same error? If we would steer clear of a mere traditional faith, we must come individually to that light of Christ in the soul, to which George Fox called the people; that redeeming power which will enable us to watch over our daily lives, that we may not become as stumbling blocks to those who look upon us as examples in the truth.

Dear friends are here from other Yearly Meetings, bearing witness of the Heavenly Father's love and protecting care, and our hearts respond with thankfulness, that they have been permitted to be with us.

The business transactions of our meeting have been marked by harmony and love. The answers to the queries drew forth expressions of appreciation and testimony to the faithful and conscientious care exercised in preparing them.

The importance of guarding the youth against the use of tobacco was emphasized, and we hope the time may come when Friends, if they would continue to hold their high position as educators of public sentiment and leaders in the work of reform, must not only wash their hands of the use, but also of the traffic in tobacco.

The subject of temperance has been feelingly touched upon, and the importance of that higher law by which the blind were restored, the sick healed and the leper cleansed, has been shown to be paramount in this great work. The spirit of the entreaty has gone forth in *our* midst, that we so lean upon the arm of Isreal's God, that the enemy shall flee before us.

A living interest in First-day school work is felt, and we have renewedly been assured that it is a source of strength to our Society.

We recognize the growth on every hand of truth and goodness; error and superstition giving way, and the perfect light shining more

and more in the souls of men. May we each and all do the work assigned us with loving hearts and willing hands. In this feeling we bid you farewell, and remain your sisters.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the meeting.

MARY ANNA PACKER, Clerk.

FROM INDIANA YEARLY MEETING OF FRIENDS, HELD BY ADJOURNMENTS FROM THE 1ST DAY OF 10TH MONTH, TO THE 4TH INCLUSIVE, 1888.

To the Illinois Yearly Meeting of Friends:

DEAR FRIENDS:—We again greet you with our annual epistle, hoping and trusting that it may be received in the same spirit of love in which it is sent.

The reading of the epistles from the other Yearly Meetings with which we correspond, brought us into earnest sympathy with those who agree with us in profession. We were made to realize that, though widely scattered geographically, we are closely united spiritually in the bonds of a common belief.

While our meeting was small in numbers, we have reason to feel encouraged by the thought that it was characterized by an unusual earnestness of purpose. The attendance has been generally prompt, the attention to the business of the meeting earnest and thoughtful, and the members brought into deep exercise.

Regret was expressed that so few young members were present to take part with us, and the query arose: Why the fathers did not strive to secure the attendance of their sons? The caution was suggested; that if we wish our children to feel an interest in the Society, we must not wait until they are old enough to take an intelligent interest in its meetings, but must begin at a much earlier age, and implant in their youthful minds a love for it.

The meeting was brought into earnest consideration of, and sympathy for such of our members as have drifted out of the jurisdiction of their respective meetings, and action was taken to secure complete lists, with the post office address, of all the members of the respective monthly meetings, that Friends may be enabled to extend to isolated

members such tokens of remembrance as may let them know that they are not forgotten. With many such, we have reason to know, an attachment to the Society both in doctrine and practice has arisen, which did not exist until after they had left its neighborhood, and been brought more closely in contact with other forms and systems of worship.

Friends were urged, not only to manifest sympathy with and interest in absent members, but also to show to those not in membership with us, but who evince by their words or their actions an interest in the Society, that they, too, are the objects of our love, and put them in possession, either orally or by the printed page, of the reasonableness and the beauty of our simple profession.

The attendance of meetings for worship was brought before us in an impressive manner, especially the non-attendance of our mid-week meetings. Friends were earnestly appealed to, to give from the labors or occupations of the week, the few short hours it would take and devote them to the worship of the Heavenly Father, and they would find their spirits strengthened, and their business not injured: "Seek first the kingdom of heaven and its righteousness, and all things necessary will be added."

A lively exercise arose as to plainness: "Plainness of dress and address." It was feared by some that there are those who are disposed to lay too much stress on the traditions of the fathers in this respect, thinking that the difference which existed in the forms of expression in the time of the founding of the Society have lost their significance, and therefore need not be regarded; while some of the weighty members thought the language of scripture alone allowable.

The reading of the reports of the Representative Committee; the Committee on Philanthropic Labor and the Indian Committee, brought out expressions of the continued interest of our members in the various subjects embraced in their labors, especially in behalf of the long persecuted Indian and the evil of intoxications, both from alcohol and narcotics. The air of our cities and towns is polluted with fumes of alcohol, and that and our street cars and railroad cars are reeking with the stench of the cigar, the pipe, or worst of all, the cigarette. Let the united voice of Friends be heard, and their voices,

supplemented by their acts, in all practicable ways, until these giant evils are stayed.

At a public meeting an aged Friend was enabled to give us a very clear exposition of the testimonies of the Society, which was followed by a valued Friend with a well considered essay on the Discipline; the two bringing before us the beauty, harmony and reasonableness of our religious organization, and testifying to the correctness of the opinion expressed by a learned man, not of our belief, who said that if George Fox was not, as he claimed to be, guided by divine wisdom, he surely had more of human wisdom than any man who had preceded him. We would earnestly commend to all our members everywhere, a closer study of both our testimonies and our discipline.

With a love which cannot be conveyed by letter, we express to you our hope that the coming year may find you, and us, more earnest in spirit, serving the Lord; with love replacing selfishness, charity for the weak, and good will to all.

Signed by direction and on behalf of Indiana Yearly Meeting of Friends, by adjournments from the 1st day of 10th month to the 4th inclusive.

DAVIS FURNAS, Clerk.

FROM INDIANA YEARLY MEETING OF WOMEN FRIENDS, HELD BY ADJOURNMENTS FROM 10TH MONTH 1ST, TO THE 4TH OF THE SAME INCLUSIVE, 1888.

To Illinois Yearly Meeting of Friends:

DEAR FRIENDS:—Through the blessing of Divine Providence, we are enabled once more to gather in our annual assembly.

Your excellent epistle, containing as it does, words of encouragement and cheer, was read; and feelings of thankfulness arose in the hearts of many, that this avenue of communication is kept open, and that notwithstanding the many miles that separate us, we can feel and know that you with us, and us with you, are all endeavoring to do what our hands find to do, in carrying on the Master's work; and from all our Sisters' meetings come these white winged messengers bearing words of love, giving evidence that we are bound together

in one common band of sisterhood. The supper of the Lord has been bountifully spread, and the broken bread and wine of the kingdom been blessed and handed forth to hungering, thirsting souls. As this is spiritually assimilated and digested, it becomes the life blood of the soul. Jesus said, "except ye eat my flesh and drink my blood, ye have no life in you." If we have become partakers of his blood—his divine life—we will in our measure like Him, go about doing good. And this opportunity is offered to us, in an especial manner, by the Philanthropic committee. One afternoon of the Yearly Meeting was given to hearing its report, which was interesting and encouraging; also the Indian committee made a satisfactory report at this session. Much interest was manifested on the subject of temperance.

A deep concern was apparent in the proper training of our children, and many were the words of encouragement extended toward the young mothers, that they keep very near to the hearts of their children; and they were wisely counseled to keep their confidence, that their little ones be not afraid to trust them with their most secret thoughts. There are dangers and pitfalls lying thickly along their young pathway, and those who would lead them astray are placing before them things which if known to mothers would fill their hearts with the greatest anxiety.

Since we last met in our annual assembly, a dear mother in Israel has passed to the higher life. She was endowed by nature with unusual talents, which, like the wise steward, she doubled and gave to her Master's service. From her position as a watchman on the towers of Zion, she earnestly called upon her sisters to guard sacredly the privileges that we, as women of a religious society, enjoy; in being accorded an equal share in its administration. And as she ascended, higher and higher the hill of time, and tasted more and more of the divine goodness, her tender love reached out and embraced the whole human family. Truly such an influence can never die, and she being dead yet speaketh.

We have the company of many friends from other yearly meetings, (one a minister) whose presence and exercises have been most acceptable at this time.

The subject of literature has claimed much attention, and we were

urged to see that suitable reading is placed before the young. The mind grows by what it feeds upon, and in that direction, if the mental food is wholesome, the mind is strengthened and ennobled.

Two sessions of the First-day School Association were held and encouraging reports were received, and as our Yearly Meeting has thrown its protecting arms around it, we feel that they will become a mutual help and strength to each other. With a salutation of love we bid you an affectionate farewell.

Signed in and by direction of the meeting.

MARY W. COOK, Clerk.

AT MEN'S BRANCH OF BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING OF FRIENDS, HELD BY ADJOURNMENTS, FROM THE 29TH OF THE 10TH MONTH TO THE 2ND OF THE 11TH MONTH INCLUSIVE, 1888.

To Illinois Yearly Meeting of Friends, to be held in joint session at Mount Palatine, Illinois:

DEAR FRIENDS:—Your epistle of Fifth month last, was felt to be of deep interest, manifesting a continued desire for an increase of the fruits of practical righteousness amongst men.

Our meeting has been inspired with renewed interest by the Good Shepherd, impressing upon us the need of "working while it is day," in such directions as He points out for us, and the manner His work among men is to be effectually performed; He continuing to be the Leader of His people. And we believe that His glory is not given to another nor His praise to the works of man, and now in our day, when we see the tyranny and oppression of *Sin*, and men and women in bondage to the lusts of the flesh, and the eye, and the pride of life; and the oppressor binding them down, and the Souls in bondage groaning for deliverance, are adopting such remedies as man offers by serving the sinful branches, but are unwilling to have "the axe laid at the root of the corrupt tree," which eradicates the cause of sin and spiritual death, restoring peace and joy to the liberated soul, which realizes that "As the Heavens are higher than the earth, so are His ways higher than our ways, and His thoughts than our thoughts."

He alone can bind the strong man of sin, and chain down the

oppressor of the people; and as we are permitted to behold our Saviour's power that overcome sin, we are reminded of the preparation of the messengers of God in time past, how they were shown that only as they were willing to be the bearers of His messages, was His work among men accomplished.

Moses was keenly alive to the suffering of Israel when in bondage to the Egyptians, but his efforts, according to the judgment of man, were unavailing, but after he became willing to deliver God's messages, and the oppressors became convinced that their afflictions were from God, Israel was released to worship and sing praises to their great Deliverer.

Also how it fared with Jonah, who after receiving a message to deliver to the Ninevites, through the fear of man reasoned with himself that they would not receive the message, and perhaps do him violence, and thought to evade the command by going another way, but was overtaken by the terror of condemnation for disobedience, which suffering caused him to obey the first command, when to his surprise, the people of Nineveh repented in sack cloth and ashes, and no doubt conformed to their Creator's will.

Do we not see the same condition amongst mankind now? Some are enslaved by *pride* and *luxury*, and some by *sensual lust*, and man is judging his fellow man. Are we faithful in obeying Him by whom we profess to be led, that we can show to those of our day, our deliverance from bondage, as the living present result of the result of the Children of the Lord being led by His spirit and enjoying His promised *peace*?

We believe that our Society, if faithful, has its place for usefulness among the people; that our Master's testimony concerning His fold is ever true, "Ye are the salt of the earth." But we pray we may so live in Truth's simplicity and faithful dedication of heart that it will not apply to us that "the salt has lost its savor and is henceforth good for nothing but to be trodden under foot of men."

The subject of our scattered and isolated members claimed our attention, and the thought of extending to them our love and sympathy produced a feeling of peace. We would suggest to them, that where two or three even (if in near enough proximity), meet together

at stated times for the worship of the Most High, this course might form the nucleus that in time would bring together more, and be the means of establishing new meetings that would benefit the whole community in which they live. We are endeavoring to get the names and places of residence of all such, for their and our benefit, that any who desire to visit them may be aided in finding them.

Temperance, as applied to the suppression of the manufacture and use of intoxicating beverages and narcotics claims our constant and serious concern.

Our meeting is mainly of our own members and is smaller than usual, being but few with minutes from other meetings, though a considerable number without minutes. The different subjects coming before us for consideration have been harmoniously decided; love and condescension prevailing with us. With a salutation of love we remain your Friends.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting aforesaid.

EDW. STABLER, JR., Clerk.

FROM BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING OF FRIENDS, WOMEN'S BRANCH,
HELD BY ADJOURNMENTS FROM 10TH MONTH, 29, TO 11 MONTH, 2, INCLUSIVE, 1888.

To Illinois Yearly Meeting of Friends:

DEAR FRIENDS:—The overshadowing love of our Heavenly Father has covered our meetings and drawn us in near sympathy with our far distant Friends. And while we are thus gathered together to transact the business of our Yearly Meeting we have felt what a privilege it is to have brought before us, through the Epistles, some of the proceedings of the various meetings in other places.

The custom is a beautiful one, and, we think, productive of great good. It is with sincere pleasure that we, in return, send this greeting to you. Showing how bands of brothers and sisters, mingling together, for each other's spiritual edification are drawn very much in the same channels of useful labor. The call of the Master for workers in His vineyard has awakened in the hearts of many of His children an earnest desire to find the right place to labor. And we trust that all will bow in humility to the yoke, first endeavoring to

be sure that we hear the voice aright, being very careful that we go not forth in our own strength, "but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem until ye be endued with power from on high," then indeed will our labor prosper, and we reap a rich harvest.

Our meeting this year is not so large as usual, we suppose in consequence of our present accommodations being small, as our new meeting-house is not yet finished.

There are few ministering Friends with us, but those who have been drawn among us are full of love and tender feelings for all, but especially for the young they have expressed an earnest desire that they may give their hearts to the Lord, assuring them that this consecration in the morning of life will bring to them a rich reward. "Give Him the gold of the morning, the beautiful undimmed gold."

As we have proceeded with the business, a good degree of interest has been manifested by all present. The reading of the queries with their answers brought much exercise over the meeting.

We were earnestly encouraged to read the Scriptures of truth frequently, in our families. One Friend suggested the plan of parents and children reading alternately, it being thought it would add to the interest and better keep the attention of the children if they took part in the exercise.

Much was said to exhort mothers and those who have the care of children, to use all their influence to prevent them from indulging in the practice of reading pernicious literature, it being hurtful and poisonous to the young mind, and also destroying the taste for good, solid instruction, to be obtained from profitable books. And while our land is so flooded with much that is vile and injurious, this caution cannot be impressed too forcibly.

A committee was appointed in our meeting last year to look after our absent members and extend to them an evidence, that tho' separated from us by distance, we still kept their welfare in mind. A very encouraging report came from this body, which showed that their labors had been appreciated; that such members, though separated in body, were with us in spirit. The subject drew forth much expression, and we were glad to continue the committee.

In answer to the query, "Are Friends careful to live within the

bounds of their circumstances" etc., much excellent counsel was given and an earnest desire was expressed that all take this subject into consideration and see if we could not help those who have the care of providing for the family. Be willing to consider well what are really our needs, and not indulge in fancied wants. It was the experience of one Friend, that many times when we think we must gratify a certain desire, if we wait a while, and think the matter over, whether it is a necessary want or not, we would find that we could dispense with it; and thus, in many little ways, we might help each other, and avoid so many pitfalls into which the thoughtless fall.

We held an interesting Youth's Meeting on First-day afternoon, in which nearly all the schools within the limits of our Yearly Meeting were represented by appropriate exercises. We feel especially encouraged in this branch of our work, the reports showing a growing interest in it everywhere.

In all our considerations of the various subjects brought before us, much harmony has existed, and love has prevailed, proving that the arm of the All-loving Father has been around about us, sustaining us in our efforts to serve him, and learn the best methods of aiding those of His flock who need a helping hand.

With a salutation of love we are your Friends.

Signed by direction, and on behalf of Baltimore Yearly Meeting of Friends. ANNA F. MATTHEWS, Clerk.

FROM GENESEE YEARLY MEETING HELD AT FARMINGTON, N. Y., BY ADJOURNMENTS FROM THE 10TH OF 6TH MONTH, TO THE 13TH OF THE SAME INCLUSIVE, 1889.

To the next Yearly Meeting of Friends to be held at Mt. Palatine, Putnam county, Ill:

DEAR FRIENDS:—Having again assembled in the capacity of a Yearly Meeting, earnest desires have been felt that each of us may be faithful in the performance of every required duty, for it is by such faithfulness that we shall receive the promised reward, and the varied business of the body be attended to in harmony and love; for

the power that directs the assembly, does it through the faithful obedience on the part of each individual member.

The reading of your acceptable epistle awakened within us a renewed devotion to the same spirit that gave life to it.

We note the growing tendency towards a more practical religion, as evinced by the epistles received at this time, as compared with those received in former times, and rejoice in the evidence that men are less disposed to turn to theology and mysticism, but are more willing to bring their religion into their thoughts and lives, that they may thereby be actuated to works of brotherly love in imitation of Him whom we call Master, who went about doing good.

The review of the state of the Society, brought vividly to our remembrance, the principles and practices that its earnest founders wrought out in their lives, and sealed with their blood.

We were reminded that the object of attending religious meetings, should not be merely to hear the spoken word, to speculate upon theological doctrines, or plan our outward business, but to worship God our Father, in spirit and in truth, to leave the allurements and cares of earth, and cultivate the spirit life, by active communion with the divine.

Such a season of communing with God, would refresh our souls, and tend to keep our thoughts pure, and our lives unsullied, so our example would induce others to come in, that they too might receive like benefits.

The First-day school movement has given a new hope and a more powerful impulse to our Society, fears have been dispelled and opposition has ceased.

The close attention to the light within, proves an efficient safeguard against making the Scriptures an object of worship and undue reverence.

The truth that God teaches his people himself, is recognized, and the injunction to "feed my lambs," as of old, finds a ready response in willing minds, and the fact that He may employ and inspire human instruments to co-operate with Him in carrying out His divine plans for saving and reclaiming man, is fully recognized.

The Temperance cause claimed our earnest attention, although a seeming reaction has taken place in relation to its progress, yet we

are not discouraged, feeling it to be but a transition period in the mode of operation, by which its final success may be assured.

We feel we must bring into more prominence as our standard, the entire prohibition of the manufacture and traffic in alcoholic liquors, and endeavor to unite all classes of the community in a determination to use every moral, religious and political means consistent with Christian principles, to accomplish so glorious a result. Let these be the means, but let our trust be in the power of God, for nothing short of that power will enable us to prevail over the combined influence of the two strong passions of human nature, which meet at the bar where intoxicants are sold; avarice on the one side, and appetite on the other. Human power alone is futile to overthrow these, but with God as our helper and our guide, we believe prohibition will eventually be established.

The company of the few friends from other Yearly Meetings, has been gratifying to us; their silent travail and public testimonies, have strengthened us, and we have also cause to rejoice for the ministerial gifts and consecrated hearts, within our own fold. The spirituality of our worship, the inspiration of our ministry, the interest taken in Philanthropic work and movements of reform, the earnestness of our young people, the dedication required in the First-day school work in the instillation of our vital principles in the youthful mind, combine to make a bright outlook for the continuance of our beloved Society; giving us substantial reasons for its continuance, and the perpetuance of its principles.

Thinking that these expressions might be profitable reminders to faithfulness in our common concerns, and feeling our love to flow out for your welfare, we are constrained to send them.

And now invoking the same divine love to visit you, enlighten your minds, and tender your hearts, and cover your Yearly Meeting, that we have realized to bless us, we bid you an affectionate farewell, and remain your friends.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Yearly Meeting aforesaid,

JONATHAN D. NOXON, } Clerks.
REBECCA WILSON, }

AT GENESEE YEARLY MEETING OF FRIENDS HELD AT FARMINGTON, N. Y., BY ADJOURNMENTS, FROM THE 8TH OF SIXTH MONTH TO THE 14TH OF THE SAME INCLUSIVE, 1889.

To Illinois Yearly Meeting of Friends:

DEAR FRIENDS:—As the members of a loving family gather about the father's table, so we in our Yearly Meeting have gathered, setting forth our preparations of the Father's bounty for all who may wish to partake; and to learn by the mutual exchange of experiences, how to garner most of the fruits of love. These blessed occasions, where hand clasps hand, heart salutes heart in sympathy and love, come to us as oasis in the desert of life, where we drink our fill from the sweet springs of living water, and feel refreshed and strengthened with new courage to go on with our allotted duties.

With the unfolding of the epistles, sent to us for reading at this time, there flowed an evidence of that precious knowledge which comes by the recognition of our oneness with the Father. These fraternal greetings have been sweet helpers to us in our efforts to make manifest the truth that love, and only love, rules the universe.

The summaries, sent up from the smaller meetings, have no cause for discouragement as to the condition of Society. If there be less adherence to the letter than formerly, there is a gain in spiritual growth or individuality, which cannot be easily manifested where prescribed lines of action must be adhered to.

The First-day school conference showed an increase in the number and interest of those engaged in First-day school work. The conclusion of this conference was a young people's meeting, in which many minds were tendered by divine love. To develop the understanding for spiritual things in early life, is to teach the child how to use the riches of his inheritance, to make beautiful the whole pathway of his life; leaving no necessity for that poverty of spirit which induces the feeling of bitterness, jealousy, and hatred toward all who differ or seem to have more of that which will bring happiness.

In proportion to the error involved, have the claims of the Temperance cause received attention at this time. A willingness has been expressed by those who can, to help make our government a protection for the weak against the avarice of the strong, who would oppress through temptation. Sweet counsel was given, that the

teachings of Jesus might not be lost in the attempt to overcome evil by force.

How beautiful is the mission of those who go forth to help suffering humanity, where they can pour the holy oil of love on the troubled waters, where reason has sought to cross unaided.

Our work among the Indians is only held in abeyance to the time when government aid shall warrant us to proceed.

Sisters and brothers from other parts of the vineyard are with us at this time, and their presence and loving words of encouragement are incentive to greater zeal and renewed labor.

Harmony has prevailed throughout all of our sittings, so that it is in the unity of love that we bid you, Farewell.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the meeting.

REBECCA WILSON,
JONATHAN D. NOXON, } Clerks.

FROM THE YEARLY MEETING OF FRIENDS HELD IN PHILADELPHIA BY
ADJOURNMENTS FROM THE 13TH DAY OF THE 5TH MONTH TO THE 17TH
OF THE SAME INCLUSIVE, 1889.

To Illinois Yearly Meeting of Friends:

DEAR FRIENDS:—In addressing our brethren of the several Yearly Meetings in unity with our own, we feelingly acknowledge that evidence has been given us at this time that the overshadowing power which gathered our fathers into religious fellowship, continues to be extended over us, bringing us into exercise for the well being of the whole body of our Society, and preserving us during the several sittings of this Yearly Meeting in the bond of brotherly love manifested by a spirit of condescension to one another in transacting the business which has engaged our attention.

Your several epistles have been read, we believe to our edification.

A number of members of other Yearly Meetings have been acceptably with us.

In considering the state of society, concern was expressed for great-

er faithfulness in maintaining our testimony to plainness of speech, behavior and apparel.

The love which is of God as it is lived in, will regulate our conduct in these respects in accordance with our profession.

Those who are intrusted with abundance were feelingly reminded of their stewardship, and desired to remember those differently situated-

We feel there is great necessity for increased faithfulness to the principles of our profession. Implicit obedience to the teachings of the Divine Spirit lead to the adoption of our vital testimonies, and by it only can they be maintained.

We continue labor by Committees, as follows:

“On Education and Schools.”

“To visit the branches of our Yearly Meeting, and encourage Friends in more faithful attention to the requirements of our Discipline, and upholding and sustaining the testimonies of our religious Society.”

“In relation to our Distant Isolated Members.”

“On Indian Affairs.”

“On Temperance and Intoxicating Beverages,” and

“On the Education of the Colored People of the South.”

The subject of the establishment of a boarding school by means of property left by our Friend, the late John M. George, claims our earnest consideration. By the provisions of his will, the school is to be in Eastern Pennsylvania, and to be for the education of children members of the Society of Friends, and such others as a committee appointed by this Meeting may think proper.

Desiring that the usefulness of these annual gatherings may continue and increase, we remain your Friends.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting aforesaid.

EMMOR ROBERTS, Clerk.

FROM PHILADELPHIA YEARLY MEETING OF WOMEN FRIENDS HELD BY
ADJOURNMENTS FROM THE 13TH OF 5TH MONTH 1889, TO THE 17TH OF
THE SAME INCLUSIVE.

To the next Illinois Yearly Meeting of Friends:

DEAR FRIENDS:—As the opening minute was read, and a reverential feeling settled over the meeting, in which the voice of supplication was heard, asking that we might all be gathered to the true center of divine inspiration; a desire was felt and expressed that we “gather up the fragments that nothing be lost.”

As the business progressed, and the reading of epistles from other Yearly Meetings brought us into near unity of feeling, we were conscious of a desire to share our feast with you, that in this interchange of good things, we may grow strong together, being nourished from the true source of wisdom and of love.

In transacting the business that has claimed our attention, we have been encouraged and strengthened by your loving words of sympathy which show that our interests are one; and the desire has gone forth that our work may redound to the honor and glory of the Great Head of the Church, under the canopy of whose love we have been permitted to enjoy this sweet season of spiritual refreshment. And while distance may separate us from each other, we feel a kindred touch in the assurance that “neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come; nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

The moving and controlling influence of the Divine Spirit has been shown by the desire to enter more fully into the philanthropic work, to which you have already given your co-operation; and many feel that newer life would be infused by effort in this direction, but the hope was expressed that in entering the many avenues of labor which are opening before us, we may not become disqualified for home duties and responsibilities; for the proper preparation for philanthropic work is at home. All work for humanity is a work of religion, and the injunction “feed my lambs,” applies as well to this day and generation, and obedience thereto is as much an evidence of true discipleship, as it was when Jesus ministered to the bodies as

well as to the souls of men. If we love the Lord our God with all our hearts, we shall not need to be incited to love our fellow men.

In considering the state of society, we were encouraged to a more faithful attendance of our meetings by which we shall experience that spiritual strength that comes from waiting upon the Lord, and which will render conformity to the requirements of all the other queries an easy service. If we are permeated with that love for God which shows itself in love of neighbor, we shall see the holiness of helpfulness that comes from the assembling of ourselves for worship, and the satisfaction of duty performed will more than compensate for any sacrifice we may be compelled to make. The church loses by the neglect of attendance, but the individual loses more.

The reading of the query in regard to living within the bounds of our circumstances called forth the tender reminder that true moderation in all things will tend to lessen the distinctions of class. This is an age in which the desire for luxury is growing upon us, and we need to be watchful, not only to live within the bounds of our circumstances, which may still be extravagant, but to set wise limitations upon ourselves, and live within the bounds of Truth. The luxurious living of this generation may undermine the strength of character of those which are to succeed.

The subject of Temperance, always one of deep interest, has assumed unusual importance on this occasion, as we are approaching a crisis in the history of Pennsylvania; for at an early date an Amendment to the Constitution prohibiting the manufacture and sale of all intoxicating beverages, as such, is to be submitted to the decision of the people.

The report of the Committee on Education was full and interesting, opening the way for the expression of encouragement, and the thought that as we develop these God-given powers, we may not forget to dedicate them to the service of the Master.

The work of the First-day schools being now under the fostering care of the Yearly Meeting, an exercise was expressed that in fitting ourselves for the important trust of guiding the children of our Society in their spiritual development, we may be concerned to go first to

the Fountain of true inspiration, there to drink deep of its living waters, that we may be rightly qualified to lead the children.

Our isolated and distant members were remembered, and our sympathies enlisted by the interesting report of the committee appointed one year ago to labor on their behalf. For these distant ones, in their spiritual loneliness, our prayer is that they may always be faithful to the light of Truth.

It is with grateful feelings we acknowledge the presence of visiting Friends, whose gentle, loving counsel has sunk deep in some tender hearts, for their encouragement and strength, and we have been made to realize, "How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the Gospel of peace and bring glad tidings of good things."

There has been a loving exhortation that we need to emphasize all the good in realization of the Scripture language; "Whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely and good report, if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things."

With feelings of sympathy and love we bid you farewell, and are your Sisters.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the meeting.

MARGARETTA WALTON, Clerk.

First Day School Association.

MINUTES.

The Illinois First-day School Association of Friends met in its fifteenth annual session Ninth-month 14th, 1889.

One Quarterly report not being on the table, we took up the Epistles, five being received and read, which elicited some expression, and a general feeling that they were good.

To essay replies, we appoint: Mary C. White, John Cory, Lauretta H. Nicholls, Oliver Wilson, Susie Brown, Gertie Wilson, Elwood Trueblood and Lowry Trueblood, who are to produce them to our next session.

By report we find that Gertie Tomlinson, Benjamin F. Nicholls, and others were appointed delegates to this association; all but two are present; (one of them being in the neighborhood). They also embraced a general report of exercises, including the Chicago Executive Meeting Bible class report, which gave us an interesting account of their work.

A concern was expressed against teaching our children the spirit of war in any way; even by the false teaching of the old Jewish wars, and that we hold up the sermon on the mount and the love of God as the paramount lesson. This was followed by another, expressing a thought of drawing a comparison by the lesson men taught in the Old Testament; also a beautiful lesson brought out as an experimental slaying of sin in our own souls, and can be taught so as to be beneficial to all, ever trusting the Truth. Much interchange of senti-

ment was expressed and we trust it will be profitable in an investigation by the true light. And that above all we teach practical righteousness, practical goodness. The exercise being continued there was thought lessons were held up before us, the greatest, to look constantly to God and be taught of His truth experimentally.

The minutes of last year being read, all business requiring care has been attended to.

The subject of raising a fund to defray the expenses of the delegates to the General Conference. The committee not being ready to report it is referred to next session.

A further desire was expressed that we let the subject which has been before us, impress itself upon our minds by individual investigation.

A question: What kind of literature we would recommend for our children to read and what to avoid, was referred for consideration at our next session.

The delegates are requested to confer together and report to next session, the names of suitable persons to serve as clerk and assistant for the ensuing year.

Having transacted the business coming before us, and feeling it has been a profitable session, we adjourned to meet on Third-day evening at half-past seven o'clock.

MARY G. SMITH, Clerk.

Near the time adjourned to, the First-day School Association met in its second session Ninth-month 17th, 1889.

On behalf of the delegates, Nathan Brooks reports they have conferred together and are united in proposing the names of Abraham H. Brown for clerk, and Mary Tomlinson for assistant, who are separately considered united with and appointed for the ensuing year.

An Epistle from Philadelphia Association was received and read at this time.

The committee appointed to prepare Epistles in answer to those received from the various First-day School Associations with which

we correspond, produced three Epistles which are approved and referred to the Epistulary committee to be corrected and placed in the hands of the Executive committee to be duplicated and forwarded.

The committee appointed to consider the question of raising funds to defray the expenses of the delegates to the General Conference report that, in view of the fact that the Conference is to be held at Fall Creek, Indiana, it was thought unnecessary.

As delegates to attend the General Conference of Friends First-day schools to be held at Fall Creek, (located near Pendelton) Indiana, in the Ninth-month of the year 1890 we appoint: Clarence Mills, Edward Coale, Lydia E. Wilson, Mary G. Smith, Josephine Hollinsworth and Elwood Trueblood, who are to report to this association next year.

An essay on the subject of "What shall be taught in Friends First-day schools," by Elizabeth H. Coale, and a touching poetical production entitled, "What of the Night"* were read, and directed to be inserted in the printed proceedings of this association.

After listening to some very pertinent and encouraging remarks by different ones in regard to the rise and progress of First-day schools, and having transacted all the business belonging to this association, resting as we believe in the cementing bonds of the Heavenly Father's love and tender care, we conclude, to meet next year on the Seventh-day preceeding our Yearly Meeting, at 3 o'clock P. M.

ABRAHAM H. BROWN, } Clerks.
MARY TOMLINSON, }

WHAT SHALL BE TAUGHT IN FRIENDS FIRST-DAY SCHOOLS.

The distinctive features of Friends society, as such, the comprehensive doctrines proclaimed in the "Sermon on the Mount;" on the principles of morality alone; such as justice, kindness, temperance, courtesy to others, etc, separate and apart from religion? Some persons advocate that these latter only should be taught as a foundation on which in after years, to rear the superstructure of a religious life; but how any one can distinguish morality so entirely from religion, as to make them separate studies, so to speak, is almost beyond comprehension, so intimately are the two blended; nevertheless there are

*No copy furnished for poetical production.

some, who, in all honesty of mind, hold these views, as all religious teaching is more or less tinged with sectarianism, how could this be otherwise? A good honest Friend believes, or ought to believe, that the peculiar sentiments belonging to his society are right; a good Methodist the same of his denomination, and so of all others; and they can so think without uncharitable or intolerant feelings to others, being willing others should enjoy the same right that they exercise, that of judging for themselves. The principles enunciated 1800 years ago by Jesus and His Apostles, are broad and deep enough to embrace all the faiths and creeds of professing christendom, but humanity is so constituted that hardly any two persons see things alike, even those of the same society view many things differently. It is no marvel then that differing interpretations of the Scriptures should be made in all honesty of belief, and those holding similar beliefs will naturally assimilate, and wish not only to maintain their own views, but to promulgate them among others; this assimilating leads to the formation of organizations for the special purpose of associating with kindred spirits, and of spreading the beliefs appertaining thereto, because of the conviction of the truth.

If as members of the Society of Friends we believe our distinctive principles should be taught in our First-day schools, we must have teachers, and these to be successful, must know of a deep introversion of their own spirits; must have a determination to work, a realizing sense of responsibility, and a strong conviction of the truth of what is to be taught; to all which must be added a fitness to impart these views and convictions to others. If we who are older, value these convictions, not simply because they are in a certain sense ours, but from a firm belief that they are right, we will desire our younger friends to be instructed therein. Are we, the adults, so thoroughly grounded in the life of these principles, that we are capable of teaching them, and when our young people ask us of our faith are we ready to give them a reason for the hope that is in us, when they ask for bread will we be capable of handing them nourishment? or will we give them in lieu thereof the hard stones of tradition, and the doctrines of men. These are questions it would do well to heed.

“Where are the lambs entrusted to thy care?” When this query is sounded in our ears, will we have to confess with sorrow and remorse that taking our ease, *hoping* all was safe, they had wandered

from our care, straying into dangerous paths, or an enemy had entered into our fold and destroyed them, how great then will be our condemnation; and at the time when our Lord maketh inquisition for blood, "He forgeteth not the humble ones," these little ones; and when the voice of their life crieth out to Him, as it were, from the very ground against such of us as have neglected our duty, and endeavored to quiet our conscience by asking, "Am I my brother's keeper?" we will feel like the one, who, of old, put this same query, that "our punishment is indeed greater than we can bear." Let us then teach the truths and principles of our beloved society; practical righteousness, not theoretical dogmas, and the world will be the wiser and better for our having lived in it.

EXERCISES OF FIRST-DAY SCHOOL.

The two sessions of the First-day School Conference gave evidence of healthful activity in both Quarterly Associations.

The topics this year presented, were differently, though harmoniously discussed, and enthusiasm in this most solemn and important branch of Society work, was shared by both old and young. We believe, through the blessing of the Dispenser of all good, that the action of school and meeting upon each other, is reflex, and always for the good of each.

EPISTLES.

From the First-day School Association of Genesee Yearly Meeting to that of Illinois.

DEAR FRIENDS:—The reading of three, very acceptable epistles was gratifying and encouraging to us. The thoughts therein expressed were so in line with our own knowledge of First-day school work, that we were strengthened in feeling, and made to realize that like efforts produce like results.

The subject of First-day schools should deeply interest us all, seeing the good influence they have spread out in neighborhoods from

which we have reports. We need these aids; believing that a thorough and fair presentation of the views of our Society in a knowledge of Friends' principles among our young people, would awaken an interest that would gather them home, and to a life in the spirit, which has been a guide to our people in the past will be granted us, so that we too shall live and grow in the truth.

Written and verbal reports from different parts of our heritage, show an increased interest to push on the work becoming, and in line for the welfare of society. The young about us, members of our order, as well as those without, are craving and longing for food that is congenial to their best nature, and plainly it is to be seen that by these means they can be drawn out and reached in a degree marvelous to those of maturer knowledge.

We do not wish by any means to be understood that we are by First-day school work placing upon the Bible a primary importance, but the valuable truths there contained, are, when spiritualized and brought into meaning by our reason, directed by the Author of all truth, calculated as when written, to be spread among all mankind. The avenues of First-day School work are very important ones, through which will surely flow spiritual growth to all who are found in that field. We would move in this capacity aided wholly by Him who spake through Jesus to the little ones, and to often in silent reflection and waiting upon Him renew our strength and qualification in the work. The world to-day stands much in need of practical righteousness, and it is our desire to make these schools simple and in the line of moral precept. It is not the form or system of the original schools we wish to follow, but to meet the young, middle-aged and older ones upon the one equal ground of mankind, which is beautifully expressed in the language of, "come let us reason together."

Largely do we believe that the instructors in our several schools do assume the responsibility of imparting to their hearers unbiased traditional views, aided by the Father of all who spake through the man Jesus, and speaks to-day through the same human agencies, we hope to press on in the light afforded for work.

And now under the canopy of divine love that reaches out to all, do we bid you farewell.

Signed—

SAMUEL P. ZAVITZ, } Clerks.
ANNIE L. CUTLER, }

To the First-day School Association of Illinois Yearly Meeting.

DEAR FRIENDS;—Upon the occasion of our annual gathering to note the present condition of the First-day School work, to review its history for the past year, and to confer upon the best methods of expanding and promoting its efficiency in the future, we are renewedly impressed with the importance of our duties and deeply conscious of our inability to fully meet the demands these duties impose. Verily it is not a light thing to undertake the instruction of the youth of the Society of Friends. Our faith is so simple and yet offers few outward tangible points to grapple with; and so spiritual that it seems sometimes to require a certain “growth in grace” before it can be fairly absorbed into the religious consciousness. In its absence of all form, which may indeed have become a formality it has no attractive power for those not otherwise impelled toward it; while in its ministry which claims a higher source and authority there is confessedly an abstinence, unlike others, firm, set, orderly and well considered discussions of moral and religious topics, and it thus presents little intellectual food to satisfy the craving of many of our young people for living topics for reflection. To teach them our faith, we must needs fall back upon the very foundations of religion. The religious sense must be quickened, cultivated, strengthened. The minds and hearts of our youth must be constantly “with ceaseless iteration” be turned upward towards the one true and living God as the source of all religious life and light; be taught early to seek His presence, His guidance, and His approval upon every thought and word and act, and taught to value such approval as the highest reward and satisfaction this world affords. With this foundation “all things else will be added” unto them. We know it is a common thought that religious training should take another direction, and we cannot altogether dissent from the view that through outward benevolences, outward activities, men are frequently led into better and more intimate relations with the Supreme. We would, however, preferably work from the vital and living source; we would choose to begin at the root; “As is the vine so are the branches; as is the root so is the vine.” Let the soul be nourished by sending down its sap root deep into the soil of the Divine love and goodness; let it drink constantly at the inexhaustible fountain of Divine life and energy. A soul so nourished cannot fail of expansion and growth and strength;

a soul so nourished sends its influences through the entire life of its possessor; a soul so nourished cannot produce an unworthy life; its outward expressions will be all of love and good will, of tenderness, of uprightness, of temperance, of purity, because, being permeated with the Divine essence, it cannot help partaking of the Divine attributes.

We do not desire to write to you without purpose; we do not desire simply to send you formal words of sympathy and encouragement, but in the fullness of our interest in the cause in which we are mutually engaged, we would fain call the attention of all teachers renewedly to the deep fountain of all religious life. We would earnestly direct them to the necessity and usefulness, never more needed than now, of constant and daily intercourse and communion with our Heavenly Father.

Through forms which appeal to the eye of our children, through the charms of music, in chants and hymns, which captivate the ear; through the eloquence of studied discourse which reaches the intellect and often the heart, it is not ours to teach. Rejecting these we need not despair. Is it not written "Ye need not that any man teach you" (1st J. 2-27), and further "They shall all be taught of God," (J. 6, xv); and is not this the very essence of our faith, this abiding belief that God will teach his people himself?

Trusting Him then, your strength and our strength will steadily increase. We shall all gradually comprehend the meaning of that well worn phrase characterizing and identifying our religious Society, The Inner Light. Receiving our light and life from Him, we shall be equipped for teaching others. So trusting, so teaching our work cannot fail to be blessed.

With a feeling of thankfulness that our work seems still to grow in depth and earnestness, and with a warm desire that the work within your borders may be fruitful, we subscribe ourselves your friends.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the First-day School Association of New York Yearly Meeting.

JOS. A. BOGARDUS, }
CAROLINE J. TITUS, } Clerks.

To the Illinois First-Day School Association:

DEAR FRIENDS:—As another season of work in the First-Day School has passed away and we assemble in the capacity of an association, we are incited to renewed ardor in upholding the standard of our faith, and in imparting it in its simplicity and strength to those who come under our care.

A source of comfort and encouragement in these meetings is the reading of the tender messages of good cheer, coming from our sister associations, and bearing sweet tokens of that abiding in the Father's love, which is our only support and strength. May we, dear friends, in responding to these tributes, feel that it is with the assurance that, as co-workers in the master's vineyard we may rejoice in the manifested fruits of our labors, and when some portion of this vineyard may not seem to bring forth a just return, let us extend to them our tender sympathy and perchance we may find wherein the trouble lies, and aid in its overcoming. The work of awakening in the minds of the young an abiding interest in the principles and testimonies of our society, we feel to be a very important one. The need of this teaching is brought strongly to our minds, as the call is being constantly made to fill the places made vacant by the scythe of the great reaper, and as our younger members must be the burden bearers of future time, may they come forth, clad in the armor of faith, to battle fearlessly for the right, may these be brought to realize that the underlying principles of true living is obedience to that Divine light, the Christ power in the hearts of the children of men, and as we are faithful to its manifestations, we shall be led to receive true happiness in this life, and the fulfillment of the promise given to the faithful in the great beyond.

Reports received from the various First Day-School Unions, within the limits of your association, indicate a growth of interest, and we trust this will be materially increased by a concern open in our late Yearly Meeting, which resulted in appointing a committee to see if there cannot be established a closer bond of union between school and meeting.

An abiding interest in the cause of temperance is felt at this time, as the voters of Pennsylvania have the privilege of deciding by ballot whether the manufacture and sale of all intoxicating liquors as a

beverage shall be prohibited, and a clause to this effect be engrafted in the constitution of the state. In our endeavor to be led in the path of true righteousness, we can but feel that intemperance is a great hindrance to the growth of spiritual knowledge, and there is a united sentiment expressed, that God in His infinite wisdom and mercy will fill the hearts of His people with light that they may thereby overcome this great evil.

During our meetings, it has been our privilege to enjoy the cementing power of the Master's love. Ever abiding under its covering, we trust to go onward, sowing the good seed of truth, doing all things to the honor and glory of God, and in his own good time the harvest will come laden with precious sheaves gathered in the garner of the Great Husbandman.

By direction of Philadelphia First-Day School Association, held in Philadelphia, Fifth month, 15, 1889.

LEWIS SMEDLEY, } Clerks.
CLARA B. MILLER, }

From Baltimore Yearly Meeting to the First-day School Association of Illinois Yearly Meeting.

DEAR FRIENDS:—We send you greeting in token of our sympathy with you in your labors in the First-day school cause, a cause of increasing interest and importance.

Many of us have come forward in the work with seeming reluctance, not that we doubted its value, but from a consciousness of its great importance, and from the sincere desire we have felt that it should be carried on by those only, who are divinely qualified, those truly anointed of the Lord, and unmistakably called to the service.

Since our schools have become a part of our organization, experience, one of our best teachers, has led us to believe that we may all be pupils therein, the old as well as the young. We find much to interest and instruct us in the lesson leaves, and think them important indeed, awakening thought and stimulating inquiry. We know that in every undertaking, we find the first step the most difficult, the second a little easier and so on, until that which has at first seemed insurmountable will be comparatively easy to accomplish. This we

think has been our experience in every good effort. When we have fully decided with our Heavenly Father's blessing to do our whole duty, never to shirk or allow ourselves to plead even our inability, we know He is able to qualify even His humblest instruments.

It is interesting to think, that although we may be widely separated, we are all engaged in the consideration of the same subject as introduced in our lesson, and we can not know how widely extended and enduring its influence may be. We trust the young and tender minds of our children may be kept pure, free from all contamination, that if they are permitted to reach old age they may be found enriched in mind and heart by the golden opportunities they have enjoyed in their youth.

It is evident we must enter into our work zealously, with the feeling that it is "of God and for God;" that he alone can fit us for it. May we continue faithful and watchful for his guidance.

With much love and many desires for the future welfare of the numerous First-day Schools, we remain your friends.

On behalf of Baltimore Yearly Meeting.

ELI M. LAMB,
Chairman of Central Committee on First-day Schools.

From the First-day School Association of Ohio to that of Illinois.

DEAR FRIENDS:—With that true unity of feeling which binds as with a chain, those that labor in the same cause, the advancement of interest in, and for the development of First-day schools, we from our yearly gathering send you greeting.

The reading of the annual letters from the various associations was truly encouraging, stimulating all to renewed energy. Our schools are few in number, though we are hopeful that good seed is being sown, and will in time yield a plentiful harvest.

The teacher's position is one of responsibility; his duty to his class is not only to encourage careful study of the Scriptures, but to suggest subjects to arouse interest, and stimulate growth in noble aspirations and higher life; commending some good book, for in the selec-

tion of reading, young people often choose, for want of knowledge, that which is an enemy to their spiritual advancement. Let us not forget that *all must teach*, whether we would or not, by example and silent influence, tending either to the upbuilding of a *pure* noble life, or the reverse.

“Thou must be true thyself,
If thou the truth wouldst teach;
Thy soul must overflow, if thou
Another’s soul wouldst reach.
It needs the overflow of heart,
To give the lips full speech.”

The child heart is reverential, let all strive to cultivate that feeling early inculcating in the mind the truth that there is “One who watches over them in their youth, is ever present, and is truly a God of love.” Thus implanting in the very foundation of life and character, the sure proof against the temptations which every where meet the members of the human family, that of having the mind stored with the promises of divine love and protection.

It would be well to have so full an understanding and knowledge, as to be able to answer “It is written” as did Jesus in his earthly career.

It has been said “God never created a soul without its work:” that work for one is in pleasant places, amid brightness, receiving the honors of life; for another, the path leads through darkness and discouragement. But man is not the judge, and it matters not if the faith and reliance be based on Him who said, “I will not forsake thee”. And the prayer of all should be,

“May every soul that touches mine,
Be it the slightest contact, get therefrom some good.
Some little grace, one kindly thought,
One aspiration yet unfelt, one bit of courage
For the darkening sky, one gleam of faith
To brave the thickening ills of life;
One glimpse of bright skies beyond the gathering mists,
To make this life worth while,
And heaven a surer heritage.”

Signed by direction of Ohio First-day School Association, held at Salem, Sth.-mo. 26th, 1889.

ESTHER J. FOX,
MARIETTA HARTLY, } Clerks.

From Indiana First-day School Association to that of Illinois.

DEAR FRIENDS:—We enjoyed the reading of your kind greeting at our opening session, and with hearts full of response, we extend our hands in cordial embrace and fellowship. With answering hail! we rejoice to hear that it is well with you.

In response we also rejoice to be able to say that our skies are brighter than they have been. We have schools where we had none.

Our Yearly Meeting has at last officially acknowledged it as a factor in the church.

The opposition that, in the past, so crippled us, has almost passed away.

Twenty years of labor is beginning to bear fruit; and now being more united we hope for greater and greater success.

We feel that we cannot be too thankful for these blessings. They come from the over-seeing eye that is ever watching for opportunity to help and bless the children of men.

If we turn to Him; if we open the windows of the soul, His holy light of wisdom will shine in and show us the way to His loaded table of rich blessings.

We heartily re-echo the sentiment that a sound physical body is conducive to health of spirit.

The natural parent admires his well developed child, because by being obedient to the admonitions of the parent, the child has attained the development of a fully fledged manhood. Obedient manhood is ever worthy of being called the "beloved son" in whom his Father either natural or Divine is well pleased.

The obedience which produced the perfect physical body is a helping adjunct to the spiritual growth, by it the spirit is cleansed and fertilized for the reception of the teachings and planting of the Divine Husbandman. This will lead us to follow the cloud by day and the fire by night, as that servant of the Living God followed the wondrous miracle that guided rebellious Israel out of bondage.

The light of Divine wisdom that illuminates our pathway, is an

ever glorious miracle, and we rejoice that those wondrous exhibitions of Divine Power have not ceased.

We use the Lesson Leaves prepared by Friends, and find them very useful; yet we understand that the proper qualification of a teacher is a dedicated spirit; and we have also found that when we sit down before our class and are enabled to get into silence even for a few moments and are careful to ask for Divine help we are never turned away empty.

When this blessed assistance comes to our aid we remark at the close, "What a good time we have had," or we hear our class members say, "Well, this is one of the best class meetings we ever had," and then we are sometimes faithful in those tender moments to give all the honor to the Mighty Presence that has been with us.

In conclusion let us remind you (without presuming to teach) that unto Him who is calling us unto the work, with 1,100,000 other First-day School workers, belongs all the honor and the glory forever and ever, farewell.

Signed by direction and on behalf of Indiana First-day School Association.

ANNA M. STARR, Clerk.

Dates of Meetings.

ILLINOIS YEARLY MEETING.

Opens at 10 A. M. on the second Second-day before the last First-day in the Ninth-month of each year (or Ninth-month, 15, 1890.)

The Meeting of Ministers and Elders gathers at 10 A. M., on the Seventh-day preceding Yearly Meeting.

The Representative Committee meets at 8 A. M., of Second-day on which the Yearly Meeting opens.

Meeting for worship is held during Yearly Meeting week, at 10 A. M., on Fourth-day.

The Illinois First-day School Association meets at 3 o'clock, Seventh-day afternoon preceding Yearly Meeting, and at 8 P. M. on Third-day of Yearly Meeting week.

Blue River Quarterly Meeting is held at Benjaminville, McLean county, Illinois, at 10 A. M. on the fourth Seventh-day, in Second-month, and on the Seventh-day, one week preceding the Yearly Meeting in Ninth-month. At Blue River, Washington county, Indiana, on the fourth Seventh day in the Fifth-month. At Clear Creek, Putnam county, Illinois, on the fourth Seventh-day in the Eleventh-month.

The Quarterly Meeting of Ministers and Elders is held at 2 P. M. on the day preceding the Quarterly Meetings.

Blue River Quarterly First-day School Association, at 8 P. M. on Sixth-days preceding the Quarterly Meetings.

Blue River Monthly Meeting is held the first Seventh-day in each month. Meetings for worship on First and Fourth-days at 11 A. M.

Blue River Executive Meeting is held on the second Fourth-day in the First, Fourth, Eighth and Tenth months. Meetings for worship at 11 A. M.

Clear Creek Monthly Meeting is held on the Seventh-day following the first Fifth-day in each month. Meetings for worship on First and Fifth-days at 11 A. M.

Benjaminville Monthly Meeting is held at 11 A. M. on the second Seventh-day following the first Fifth-day in each month except in Ninth-month, when it is held on the first Seventh-day following the close of Yearly Meeting. Meetings for worship on First-day and on Fifth-days at 11 A. M.

Richland Monthly Meeting is held at Hoopston, Illinois, on the first Fifth-day of each month, at 11 A. M.

East Jordan Executive Meeting is held on First-day following the third Seventh-day in Second, Fifth, Eighth and Eleventh months. Meetings for worship First-days at 11 A. M. Preparative Meetings are held at the conclusion of the Executive Meetings.

Chicago Executive Meeting is held on the second First-day in the Second, Fifth, Eighth and Eleventh months at 12 M. Meetings for worship on First-days at 10:45 A. M. Preparative Meetings are held on First-days, preceding Executive Meetings, at 12 M.

Indulged Meetings under the care of Clear Creek Monthly Meeting at Plainfield, Fulton county, Illinois, on every First-day at 11 A. M. At West Bureau, Bureau county, Illinois, on every First-day at 11 A. M.

Prairie Grove Quarterly Meeting is held on the first Seventh-day in Third, Sixth and Twelfth months, at 11 A. M., and on the Fifth-day preceding Yearly Meeting in Ninth-month at 10 A. M. Preparative Meetings are held at 9:30 A. M. on the day of Quarterly Meetings.

Prairie Grove Monthly Meeting will be held the last Fifth-day in each month. Meetings for worship First and Fifth-days, at 11 o'clock, A. M.

Wapsienonoc Monthly Meeting is held on the last Seventh-day in

each month. Even months at Highland and odd months at West Liberty, Iowa. Meetings for worship, First-day at West Liberty and Highland, at 11 A. M.

Marietta Monthly Meeting is held on the second Seventh-day in each month, at 2 P. M., except in the Ninth-month, when it is held on the first Seventh-day. Meetings for worship on First-days at 11 A. M. First-day School after meeting for worship.

Nebraska Half-year's Meeting is held on the last Second-day in Second and Eighth-months; at Lincoln in the Second-month, and Genoa in the Eighth-month, at 11 A. M. The meeting for Ministers and Elders the Seventh-day preceding at 2 P. M. Organized at Lincoln on the first Second-day in the Twelfth-month, 1889 at 11 o'clock A. M.

Genoa Monthly Meeting is held on the third First-day in each month. Meetings for worship every First-day at 11 A. M.

Lincoln Executive Meeting is held on the second Fifth-day in the Second, Fifth, Eighth and Eleventh months, at 2 o'clock P. M. Meeting for worship on the second and fourth First-days of each month, at 11 o'clock A. M.

Clerks and Correspondents.

ILLINOIS YEARLY MEETING.

CLERK.

Oliver Wilson, Magnolia, Putnam county, Illinois.

CORRESPONDENTS.

Martha M. Wilson, Magnolia, Putnam county, Illinois; Edith Mills, Mt. Palatine, Illinois.

TREASURER.

Amos B. Wilson, Magnolia, Putnam county, Illinois.

LITERATURE DEPOSITORY CLERK.

Able Mills, Mt. Palatine, Illinois.

Meeting of Ministers' and Elders' Clerk.—Lauretta H. Nichols, State Centre, Iowa.

Blue River Quarterly Meeting Clerks.—Griffith E. Coale, Holder, Illinois; Mary Trueblood, Salem, Indiana, and Edith Price Clear Creek, Illinois.

Blue River Monthly Meeting Clerk.—Nathan T. Brooks, Salem, Indiana.

Blue River Executive Meeting Clerk.—James W. Heacock, Canton, Indiana.

Clear Creek Monthly Meeting Clerk.—Mary A. Mills, Clear Creek, Illinois.

Benjaminville Monthly Meeting Clerk.—A. H. Brown, Holder, McLean county, Illinois.

East Jordan Executive Meeting Clerk.—Martha A. John, Penrose, Illinois.

Chicago Executive Meeting Clerk.—Edward Speakman, 482 West Adams street, Chicago.

Richland Monthly Meeting Clerk and Correspondent.—Isaac T. Lukens, Hoopeston, Illinois.

Prairie Grove Quarterly Meeting Correspondent.—Thos. E. Hogue, Downey, Iowa.

Prairie Grove Quarterly Meeting Clerks.—Benj. F. Nichols, State Center, Iowa; Eliza T. Whitacre, Iowa City, Iowa.

Prairie Grove Monthly Meeting Correspondent.—Robert Blackburn, Winfield, Iowa.

Prairie Grove Monthly Meeting Clerk.—Theodore Russell, Winfield, Iowa.

Wapsienonoc Monthly Meeting Correspondent.—Horace G. Welch, Downey, Cedar county, Iowa.

Wapsienonoc Monthly Meeting Clerk.—Josephine Hollingsworth, West Liberty, Iowa.

Marietta Monthly Meeting Correspondent.—Benjamin F. Nichols, State Centre, Iowa.

Marietta Monthly Meeting Clerk.—Lillie Edsall, LaMoille, Iowa.

Lincoln half year's meeting clerk.—

Lincoln executive meeting clerk.—Russell Lownes, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Genoa monthly meeting correspondent.—Geo. S. Truman, Genoa, Nance county, Nebraska.

Genoa monthly meeting clerk.—David Brown, Genoa, Nance county, Nebraska.

ILLINOIS
Yearly Meeting Committees.

REPRESENTATIVE COMMITTEE.

Martha Baynes, Salem, Indiana.
 Lowrey Trueblood, Salem, Indiana.
 Thomas Trueblood, Hitchcock's, Indiana.
 James Heacock, Canton, Indiana.
 Mary G. Smith, Hoopeston, Illinois.
 Charles A. Lukens, Hoopeston, Illinois.
 Elizabeth H. Coale, Holder, "
 Benjamin Coale, " "
 Edward Coale, " "
 Mary E. Coale, " "
 Rebecca Mills, Mt. Palatine, "
 Joshua L. Mills " "
 Hannah S. Mills, " "
 Abel Mills, " "
 Elizabeth W. Mills, " "
 David Wilson, Wenona, "
 Lydia A. Wilson, " "
 Thos. W. Woodnutt, Chicago, "
 Allen J. Flitcraft, " "
 Elma Brown, " "
 Elizabeth T. Law, " "
 Nathan Edsall, Marietta, Iowa.
 Levi K. Pilkington, Springdale, Iowa.

Edgar Russell, Winfield, Iowa.
 Sarah P. Wilson, Springdale, Iowa.
 Sallie A. R. Canby, Winfield, Iowa.
 Josephine T. Hollingsworth, W. Liberty, Ia.
 James S. Brooks, Salem, Indiana.
 Abram H. Brown, Holder, Illinois.
 Harley Cooper, Mt. Palatine, Illinois.
 Cornelia S. Bedell, Holder, “
 Alice Coale, “ “
 Rebecca J. Kennedy, Bloomington, Illinois.
 Lydia K. Penrose, Sterling, Illinois.
 Martha A. John, Penrose, “
 Robert Blackburn, Winfield, Iowa.
 Mary E. Cooper, “ “
 Edward T. Price, “ “
 Elwood P. Cooper, “ “
 Phebe E. Russell. “ “
 Mahlon Hollingsworth, W. Liberty Iowa.
 Thomas E. Hogue, Downey. “
 Anna Hogue, “ “
 Edward P. Whitacre, Iowa City, “
 Eliza T. Whitacre, “ “
 Ann E. Mead, West Liberty “
 Ann Eliza Harrison, “ “
 William W. Lamborn, “ “
 Elijah Hogue, “ “
 Joseph Hartly, Centredale “
 Lydia Hartly “ “
 Benj. F. Nichols State Centre “
 Laurette H. Nichols, “ “

*COMMITTEE ON PHILANTHROPIC LABOR AND ITS
 SUB-COMMITTEES.*

Genoa Monthly Meeting:

Geo. S. Truman, Genoa, Neb.
 Susan T. Truman, “ “
 Joseph L. Truman, “ “

Joseph Webster, Genoa, Neb.
 David H. Brown, " "
 Isaiah Lightner, Matson, Platte Co., Neb.
 Stephen W. Lightner, " " " "
 Jacob Z. Shotwell, Genoa, Neb.

Lincoln Executive Meeting:

Moses Brinton, Lincoln, Neb.
 Margaret Brinton, " "
 Mary A. Swaney, " "
 J. Russell Lownes, " "
 Chas. Walters, " "
 Catharine DePeel, Bennett, Neb.
 Chas. Cook, Raymond, Neb.
 Joseph H. Painter, Lake Side, Neb.

Marietta Monthly Meeting:

Theodore G. Marsh, Marshaltown, Ia.
 Benj. F. Nichols, State Center, "
 Laurette H. Nichols, " " "
 R. Alice Mills, " " "
 John T. Packer, " " "
 Mary A. Nichols, " " "
 Howard H. Shumway, Marietta, Ia.
 Lillie Edsall, " "

Prairie Grove Monthly Meeting:

Thos. W. Cooper, Winfield, Ia.
 Caleb Russell, " "
 Sarah E. Cooper, " "
 Sarah A. R. Canby, " "
 Hannah M. Russell, " "
 Edwin T. Price, " "

Wapsinoc Monthly Meeting:

Horace G. Welch, Downey, Ia.
 Josephine Hollingsworth, West Liberty, Ia.
 Harriet Whiteacre, Iowa City, Ia.
 Elijah Hogue, West Liberty, Ia.
 Fred T. Hartley, Centredale, Ia.
 Sarah P. Wilson, Springdale, "
 Anna Pilkington, " "

East Jordan Executive:

Martha A. John, Penrose P. O., Ill.
 Catharine A. Wilson, Penrose, Ill.
 Lydia K. Penrose, Sterling, Ill.
 Chalkley John, Sterling, Ill.
 Geo. D. John, Penrose, Ill.
 E. Anna Wilson, Penrose, Ill.

Chicago Executive.

Mary J. Law, Washington Heights, Ill.,
 Elma L. Brown, 112 Honore St.,
 Allen J. Flitcraft, Oak Park, Ill.,
 Hannah A. Plummer, 75 Maple St., Chicago,
 Jona. W. Plummer, " " " "
 T. W. Woodnutt, 115 Kinzie Street,
 Mary E. Poulson, 5547 Atlantic Street.

Clear Creek Monthly:

Joshua L. Mills, Mt. Palatine, Ill.
 Hannah S. Mills, " "
 Henry Atherton, Clear Creek, Ill.
 Morris A. Wilson, Magnolia, Ill.
 Martha M. Wilson, " "
 David Wilson, Wenona, Ill.
 R. Eva Sutherland. Holder, Ill.

Benjaminville Monthly:

Mary C. White, Bloomington, Ill.
 Griffith E. Coale, Holder, "
 Edward Coale, " "
 Abraham H. Brown, " "
 Sarah A. Coale, " "
 Elenora Coale, " "
 Elizabeth H. Coale, " "
 Adelaide Foulke, Emery, Ill.

Richland Monthly:

Mary G. Smith, Hoopeston, Ill.
 Charles A. Lukens, " "
 Edgar Smith, " "

Nathan Smith, Hoopeston, Ill.
 Alcinda Wood, " "
 Clarkson Wood, " "
 Isaac T. Lukens, " "

Blue River Monthly:

Thomas H. Trueblood, Hitchcock's, Washington Co., Ind
 Elwood Trueblood, Salem, Ind.
 Edith Baynes, " "
 James S. Brooks, " "
 E. Hicks Trueblood, " "
 Lowry Trueblood. " "

Blue River Executive:

James W. Heacock, Canton, Ind.
 Sarah Heacock, " "
 Mary N. Overman, Salem, Ind.
 Miriam N. Overman, " "
 Mary B. White. " "

DINING HALL COMMITTEE.

Oliver Perry Mills, Clear Creek. Illinois.
 Amos B. Wilson, Magnolia, "
 Mary W. Smith, Mt. Palatine, "
 Mary V. Griffith, Clear Creek, "
 Elijah Hogue, Downy, Iowa.

VISITING COMMITTEE.

Edward Coale, Holder, Illinois.
 Thomas E. Hogue, Downey, Iowa.
 David Wilson, Wenona, Illinois.
 Sarah Ann Coale, Holder, "
 Thos. H. Trueblood, Hitchcock's Indiana.
 Allen J. Flitcraft, Room 6, Tribune Building, Chicago.
 Able Mills, Mt. Palatine, Illinois.

Griffith E. Coale, Holder, “
 Benj. F. Nichols, State Centre, Iowa.
 Phoebe Russell, Winfield, “
 Mary G. Smith, Hoopeston, Illinois.
 J. W. Plummer, 52 Lake St., Chicago.
 Charles A. Lukens, Hoopeston, Illinois.
 Lydia A. Wilson, Wenona, “
 Stephen Williams, Urbana, “
 Elijah Hogue, Downey, Iowa.
 Elwood P. Cooper, Winfield, “
 Isaiah Lightner, Matson, Nebraska.
 Joshua Mills, Mt. Palatine, Illinois.
 Joshua L. Mills, “ “
 Elwood Trueblood, Hitchcock's, Indiana.
 ABEL MILLS, Clerk, Mt. Palatine, Illinois.

COMMITTEE ON FIRST-DAY SCHOOL INTERESTS.

Mary E. Trueblood, Salem, Indiana.
 Abram H. Brown, Holder, Illinois.
 Oliver Perry Mills, Clear Creek, Illinois.
 Mary A. Nichols, State Centre, Iowa.
 Elwood Trueblood, Salem, Indiana.
 Horace Welch, Downey, Cedar County, Iowa.
 Alice Coale, Holder, McLean county, Illinois.

COMMITTEE ON ISOLATED MEMBERS AND LITERATURE.

Edward Coale, Holder, McLean county, Illinois.
 John B. Price, Clear Creek, Putnam Co., “
 William M. Price, Mt. Palatine, “
 Wm. W. Lamborn, West Liberty, Iowa.
 Sydney Averill, Wyanet, Bureau Co., Illinois.
 David Wilson, Wenona, “

- Milton K. Smith, Hoopston, Illinois.
 Jos. A. Dugdale, Mt. Pleasant, Iowa.
 Thos. H. Trueblood, Hitchcock's, P. O., Washington Co., Indiana.
 Mahlon Hollingsworth, West Liberty, Iowa.
 Mary P. Ninde, Oskloosa, " "
 Lydia K. Penrose, Sterling, Whiteside county, Illinois.
 Martha M. Wilson, Magnolia, Putnam, " "
 Ann E. Mead, Downey, Iowa.
 Mary Ann Bedell, Holder, McLean county, " "
 Julia A. Brown, " " " "
 Anna Wilson, Magnolia, Putnam, " "
 Elmira R. Worrell, Pasadena, California.
 Lydia Griffith, Clear Creek, Putnam Co., Illinois.
 Rebecca Marsh, Marietta, Marshall county, Iowa.
 Isaiah Lightner, Matson, Platte county, Nebraska.
 Johathan W. Plummer, Chicago.
 Moses Brinton, Lincoln, Nebraska.
 Elwood Trueblood, Salem, Indiana.
 ABEL MILLS, Clerk, Mt. Palatine, Putnam county, Illinois.

The following Poem was received too late to appear in proper place with First-Day School proceedings:

“WHAT OF THE NIGHT.”

We have groped through the night and darkness
 In this valley of shadows below,
 The burdens we carry are heavy,
 Our progress is halting and slow,
 And we eagerly watch for the dawning
 To lighten the sky with its glow.

For the bitterest cups of sorrow
 To the veriest dregs we drank;
 And the galling chains of labor
 About our footsteps clank,
 As we walk where vice and temptation
 Like brambles and thorns grow rank.

The vultures of crime and evil
 Still hover around our way,
 And pride and error and passion
 Hold here their boundless sway,
 And the demons that lurk in the darkness,
 Hide here from the light of the day.

There were those whom we loved and cherished
 Who longed for the morning tide,
 Who weary with watching and waiting
 Have lain them down and died;
 And we list for their muffled footsteps,
 But no echo has replied.

We long for the time when the morning
 Shall gladden our aching sight.
 Oh, Watchman, on life's hilltops!
 What of this long dark night?
 Are there yet no streaks of the dawning?
 Are there yet no signs of light?

“O yes! stretching out in beauty
 I see the wide fields of day.
 Lo! the mountains are bathed in glory
 Where the beams of the morning play.
 Around and above me is dawning
 The light of a far brighter day.”

The angel of Peace I see hovering
 With joy for the children of men;
 And Truth with fingers unerring
 Is scattering the fields with her grain;
 And Love, God's holiest angel
 Is circling the world with her chain.

But look once more, O Watchman!"
 Is there naught thy vision to mar?
 Can'st thou see the home of the beautiful
 Where the loved and the lost ones are?
 Can'st thou see, O faithful Watchman!
 Are the gates of morning ajar?

"I see faint glimpses of regions
 By endless bloom embossed,
 To whose green glades of gladness
 No sorrow ever crossed;
 Whose billowy realm of beauty
 No tempest ever tossed.

No sin or crime has ever
 Passed to that blessed abode,
 And death and darkness never
 Through its bright portals trod.
 'Tis lighted by a radiance
 From the dear face of God.

Thy loved ones who grew weary
 Of this long cheerless night,
 Who fell in this dark valley
 Now bask in that clear light,
 The form they wear so beautiful,
 Would dim thy mortal sight.

All sweet things, love hath uttered,
 All tones of hope or cheer,
 All words of pure devotion
 Have been translated there,
 And they vibrate in soft music
 Through its ethereal air."

And through the rifted portals
 An anthem sweet and clear
 Floats down to fill the ages
 With love, and hope, and cheer;
 And one refrain forever
 Falls on my listening ear.

That anthem sweet and tender,
 Is fresh and new, as when
 The shepherds heard its music
 In the vales of Bethlehem.
 'Tis glory unto God on high,
 Peace and good will to men."

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